

# THE GATEWAY

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## U of A researchers set sights on landmine-detecting plant

ROSS MOROZ  
News Writer

A research team at the University of Alberta is collaborating with Canadian and American military agencies to produce landmine-detecting plants.

The team, led by U of A biological sciences professor Dr. Michael Deyholos, hopes to alter the genetic structure of a plant in a way that would cause it to change colour if TNT is present in the soil. The plan is to modify receptors on the roots of a plant so that those receptors would respond to some of the compounds present in TNT, helping soldiers on humanitarian and peacekeeping missions to clear minefields.

The research is funded by Defense Research and Development Canada (DRDC), the research and development arm of the Canadian Forces. DRDC has granted the team \$150,000 over two years to conduct a feasibility study.

"Everyone knew we couldn't [produce a plant] in two years," said Deyholos. "We were only supposed to find out if it was possible, and we think it is."

The idea for the project came from Dr. Anthony Faust, a U of A alumnus who works for DRDC at Canadian Forces Base Suffield. Faust was inspired by an American plan to use plants to detect heavy metals on the surface of Mars. He theorized that a similar process could be used to detect the compounds found in explosives like landmines.

The U of A project has since caught the attention of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), the American Military's research and development firm. While DARPA is not contributing any funding to the project at this point, the U of A team is cooperating with an American group funded by DARPA.

"DARPA funds way out, weird stuff—they are probably the basis for the X-Files," laughed Deyholos, who describes a DARPA brainstorming session he attended as "very strange."

**"Everyone knew we couldn't [produce a plant] in two years. We were only supposed to find out if it was possible, and we think it is."**

MICHAEL DEYHOLOS,  
U OF A BIOLOGY PROFESSOR

According to the organization's website, DARPA "pursues research and technology where risk and payoff are both very high and where success may provide dramatic advances for traditional military roles and missions."

"[DARPA] believes that if more than ten per cent of its projects are successful, they are not thinking radically enough," explained Deyholos.

PLEASE SEE PLANTS • PAGE 3



JIFFREY GREENHAUS  
AAAAHH! A Bear pole vaulter competes at the track meet over Reading Week.

## GSA Exec positions still empty

CASSIE BROWN  
News Writer

A week after the Graduate Students' Association elections, five of the six executive positions remain unfilled.

Incoming Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Vice-President Academic Peter Ajemba was the only candidate in this year's executive election, one possible reason why voter turnout dropped to just below three per cent. Still, Peter says that considering the nature of the election and the notable lack of controversial issues, he was "impressed by the voter turnout."

The GSA is the voice for the nearly 6000 graduate students on campus. Of those 6000, only 156 turned up at the polls this year, according to administrative staff.

This turnout is considerably lower than last year, but closer to being on par with years before that. In a recent referendum on health coverage, the turnout was much higher: ten per cent (or around six hundred) graduate students turned out to cast their ballots.

Ajemba, a third-year PhD student in medical imaging and artificial intelligence, said that despite students' apparent apathy towards voting, there are many problems facing graduate students.

PLEASE SEE GSA • PAGE 2



SHAWN BROWN  
GENIUS AT WORK U of A biologist Dr Michael Deyholos examines his plants.

## Increased female enrolment raises controversy

GINNY COLLINS  
Central Bureau

REGINA (CUP)—The fact that women are outnumbering men in universities should not be a cause for concern but rather a cause for celebration, according to women's centres in Manitoba.

Despite arguments made by educators who believe the new enrolment statistics prove that something is wrong in the way males are educated, Crystal Gartside of the University of Manitoba's Women's Centre believes that things are finally changing for the better. "It's good that things have turned around. It means that we're moving ahead," she said.

Recent studies have shown that in universities all across Canada, women have begun to outnumber their male counterparts. Statistics gathered in 1999 show that, in Ontario, universities contained only 105 119 men compared to 124 866 women.

The numbers show that other provinces, including Alberta and Manitoba, also have thousands more women than men. Currently,

women make up 56.75 per cent of the students at the University of Manitoba and 62 per cent of the students at the University of Winnipeg.

**"Across Canada, 15 per cent of boys drop out of school before they graduate, compared with only nine per cent of girls."**

CRYSTAL GARTSIDE,  
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA'S  
WOMEN'S CENTRE

According to University of Winnipeg education professor Laura Sokal, women are filling up universities because schools are failing to properly teach boys.

"Across Canada, 15 per cent of boys drop out of school before they graduate, compared with only nine per cent of girls," she said. "We're losing out on them and they're losing out on an education."

Sokal added that in the '80s and

'90s education was changed to be more "girl friendly" because studies showed that girls were falling behind in certain subjects.

She claims that those values now have to be turned around so that boys aren't left out of the equation.

In response to this, Gartside argues that many girls are still disadvantaged in the classroom, with boys dominating a lot of class time.

"It's a big leap to assume that the education of young children strongly affects university enrolment," she said. "I think it has more to do with changing views on what kinds of jobs are accessible to men and women."

She added that manual labour and trade jobs are seen by society as something a man should pursue.

Alternately, Sokal claims that many of the men who drop out of school don't end up pursuing trades or any kind of postsecondary education whatsoever.

She says that in order to ensure boys stick with school and get an adequate education, schools have to create a more boy-friendly atmosphere.

PLEASE SEE WOMEN • PAGE 3



**10** Better order some pizza; the Ninja Turtles are celebrating their 20th birthday, dude. In the feature, creator Peter Laird reflects on the turtles' journey out of their teen years.

### Inside

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### Outside

**Tuesday** Sunny. Leonardo leads. High 9, where art thou, sweet, sweet lows?  
**Wednesday** Sun and cloud. Donatello does machines. High 11, Low 9.  
**Thursday** Cloud and sun. Raphael is cool but rude (gimme a break). High 2, Low 9.  
**Friday** Sun and cloud. Michelangelo is a party dude. (partly) High 10, Low 4.  
Source: Environment Canada



### From the archives

Officials from the University of Alberta Students' Union impounded a U of A paper called the *Student Times*, believing that the publication had printed biased election material. Chief Returning Officer Michael Hunter called the material "tacky, libelous and offensive, factually inaccurate and a deliberate attempt by an SU club to influence the outcome of the election." As a student club, the paper was subject to editorial restrictions by the Students' Union, and was not allowed to endorse candidates during elections. A representative from the publication called the action "a deliberate act of censorship" and a ruling based on "gut instincts" and not the constitution.

1989



**12** For the sake of argument, we're going to call the hockey Bears 26-0-2 record "perfect." We'll do that because they bear need to feel even better about themselves.

## THE GATEWAY

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Apple Macintosh computers, Hewlett-Packard ScanJet 3x and 4x, and a Canon CanoScan 4400F optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Frutiger, Helvetica, and Avenir. The Gateway's games of choice are EVE and Xanga Velocity.

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## President blames students' other priorities for lack of interest

GSA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He is particularly focused on addressing the omnipresent funding concerns, but maintains that there are many other contentious issues.

Students claim that access to support services as well as the length and structure of graduate programs are topics that need to be dealt with.

This year's GSA President Lee Skallerup noted the GSA has received nominations for two of the five empty positions already. President and VP Finance and Administration. The candidates will stand for election at the GSA annual general meeting in late March of this year.

"If the positions still aren't filled [after the AGM], then we move to official byelection mode, restarting the cycle calling for nominations every 30 days," she stated.

Skallerup explained that there are several reasons why graduate students are less likely than undergraduates to become involved in student politics.

"The average grad student is over 30. We are more likely to have families, and those with families are not as

willing to spend the extra time away from their families for that year, and also take the extra year to finish their degrees," she said.

The time that a graduate student can commit to student politics is also limited by his or her individual study arrangement.

"A grad student to a large degree is at the mercy of his or her funding situation and supervisor," she explained.

Because of these differences, graduate students often have very different concerns than undergraduates. As GSA president, one of Skallerup's foremost agendas was to improve the graduate student health and dental plan. Labour and wages are always contentious issues as well, as most graduate students are paid for the classes they teach and the research they do. Skallerup emphasized that while voter turnout and interest in executive positions seems low, council attendance has been twice as high this year as in the past.

Involvement is essential, she explained. "Our council can only act on what the students let us know."



FILE PHOTO: SHAWN BENBOW

GSA President Lee Skallerup discusses graduate student apathy.

not to return and sent off campus.

## FENCEBANGER OFF TO CELLS

On 13 February at about 10:30am, officers came across a man stumbling in the NU zone parking lot east of HUB mall. He proceeded to beat on a fence near the East Campus University construction site. He had been trespassing from University property before registering as a student, and had failed to deal with it with 5-0. He was arrested for trespassing, taken back to cells and hit with a drunk in public tag.

## PARTY POOPERS

On 13 February at about 3:30am, officers responded to a fire alarm activation on the 12th floor of Newton. Officers found three males loosely identified as the culprits and identified them. They had attended a party in the residence, none were affiliated with the University, and one had an outstanding warrant for his arrest. He was taken into custody, and another one was given ticket for public drunkenness.

## BUT HE GOT THE BEER ...

Sometime between 13-14 February, a thief broke into an office on the fourth floor of Business. The money box was bolted down, and the thief was unable to gain access to it. \$20 in change and some Big Rock beer was stolen. Evidence was collected from the scene

for analysis, including fingerprints.

## DON'T DRIVE DUMB

On 14 February at about 4am, Campus Constables spotted an abandoned car that had spun out of control where Whyte Avenue turns into University Avenue. The driver had phoned city police to claim it was stolen, but under interrogation, the owner admitted he had been driving and had lost control of the vehicle. A University tree and a city sign were damaged in the encounter.

## SUSPICIOUS TRIO SPOTTED IN HUB

On 15 February at midnight, officers spotted two suspicious females and a male loitering in a stairwell in HUB. It was determined that they had been responsible for recent graffiti vandalism in the area, their markers were seized, and they were directed off campus. One of the girls had a record for theft, and the male was waiting for his court appearance on charges of possession of dangerous weapons, violence and other weapons offences.

## STOLEN TEXTBOOK HAMMER TRAPPED

On 17 February at about 2:15pm, officers spotted a man that had been attempting to sell used University texts in HUB mall. Officers suspected the books had been stolen, but the man

claimed a relative had purchased the books at a garage sale. The facts didn't add up, and since the man didn't have any other reason for being on campus, he was trespassing.

## GRUBBIES STUMBLE INTO CHARGES, FINES

On 17 February at 11pm, officers watched a group of five males stumbling around on the west side of Fine Arts. Two of them proceeded to urinate in public, and two were arrested for outstanding warrants, brought back to cells and handed over to city constables. None were students.

## WANTED MAN NABBED IN EDUCATION

At about 6:15pm on 19 February, a suspicious male was seen poking around in offices on the fourth floor of the Heritage Medical Research Center. He was confronted by a staff member, at which point he left the area quickly. Two hours later, a Constable on routine patrol of Education found a suspect matching the description. He had a lengthy criminal record, was wanted for fraud over \$5000, had warrants for his arrest from Toronto and Québec, and was a wanted man in Vancouver as well as Edmonton. He was treated to a pair of matching 5-0 bracelets, taken to University cells and handed over to Edmonton Police.

## STREETERS

The U of A hosted five playoff events this weekend, but attendance was lower than usual.

Do you attend or follow Bears or Pandas athletic events? Why or why not?



Colin Chapman  
Arts II



Mitchell Strech  
Mechanical  
Engineering IV



Candace  
Edmunds  
Phys Ed III



Laurie Wang  
Arts III

I haven't been to any games but I follow them a little bit. I'm too busy to have the chance to go to any of the games.

No, I don't go to games or really follow the teams. I don't have time and I would rather go home to drink at the bar.

Yeah. The varsity games have a good entertainment value, the games are cheap, and my friends know some people to go to and have some school spirit.

Not really, because I lack school spirit, sadly. If I hear that they win I think it's cool, but besides that I don't really care.

Compiled and photographed by Ross Prusakowski and Robin Collins

## U of A MBA ranked among the world's best

MICHAEL SHANDRO  
News Writer

The U of A's MBA program stands among the top 100 in the world, according to a recent report by the *Financial Times* of London.

The Masters of Business Administration (MBA) program placed 97th among 2500 business schools around the world in the annual report, which measures strengths in the areas of diversity of experience, the school's research qualities, and average salary earned by students upon graduation.

School of Business Dean Dr Michael Percy is pleased with the results, and feels that participating in international rankings is important for the program's reputation, both internationally and locally.

It gives the students a sense that the quality of the program is recognized internationally," he explained. "It gives the students a level of comfort with the mobility of the degree."

Percy explained, however, that there are still misconceptions surrounding today's MBA programs, both at the U of A and around the world. "There is sometimes the perception that people with MBAs can make the leap from entry level positions to CEO faster than is possible," he said. "That general problem is perpetuated by some of the elite schools that say, 'clearly, you are exceptional. You paid \$55 000 to come here, so you are exceptional.'"

Salary earned by students upon completion of their degrees is the most important component of the survey ranking, constituting 43 per cent of the weight. "If we had the same salary levels as the Ontario schools, we would have ranked somewhere in the 60s," Percy remarked. "We are publicly funded, so part of our job is to create jobs for people in the local Alberta market."

Percy is particularly proud of the program's excellent teaching track record. "No measures on the survey take into account teaching excellence,"



LET ME COUNT THE WAYS ... Dean of Business Dr Michael Percy.

he said. "The U of A School of Business has received four 3M teaching awards [created to recognize teaching excellence at Canadian universities] while no other business school in Canada has more than one."

One beneficial measure that was taken into account in the rankings was research, which the U of A's MBA program was ranked 45th in the world for. "This is quite an accomplishment, because we do not have the types of head offices as Calgary, New York, or London," explained Percy.

Hugoline Morton, an MBA and law student, is in the natural resources and energy specialization program. She agreed the U of A's MBA program deserves to be ranked among the top 100 in the world. "The program has opened a lot of doors for me," she said. "It has been an excellent program, and there's a lot of opportunities for hands-on experience. People in the program really make an effort to invite us to dinners and functions and open doors for us."

Despite this, Morton notes that there is still room for improvement in the

program. "It could have higher entrance standards and a heavier course load in the second year," she explained.

Percy maintains the program has some of the highest quality students in the country. "If you measure quality of students by GMAT [Graduate Management Admission Test], we are third in Canada," said Percy. "We don't take in people with no experience. We give weight on life experience. What we want is a mix of natural smarts and business acumen. The average student is 28 years old, with four years work experience, and a high GMAT average of 625."

Other rankings on the survey included percentage of female faculty and students, international students, value of the degree for the money paid, alumni recommendations, and placement success of graduates.

Among Canadian business schools, the U of A placed seventh. Consecutively, the University of Toronto, York University, and the University of Western Ontario's business schools were the top ranked in the country.

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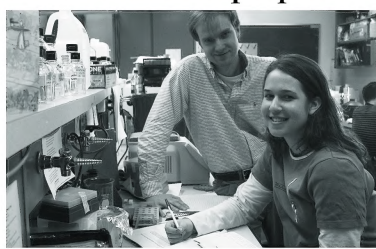
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## Scientists assure research is for humanitarian purposes



SHAWN BERNOW

U of A biology professor Michael Deyholos and intern Rebecca Montoya.

PLANTS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DARPA was created in 1958 as a response to the Soviet Union's launching of the Sputnik satellite, and has conducted highly secretive, defense-oriented research ever since, including the creation of ARPAnet, a forerunner of the internet, in 1968. Among its more ominous current projects is the creation of the "Information Exploitation Office," an agency which, according to its own website, strives to "achieve the promised benefits of information dominance on the traditional and nontraditional battlefields of the 21st century."

While DRDC and Deyholos maintain that their research is obviously intended to be used for humanitar-

ian purposes, the involvement of the ultra-secretive and military-centric DARPA raises the prospect of the U of A's findings being used for less altruistic purposes. For instance, Deyholos remembers one DARPA meeting where someone wondered aloud whether or not "we could make plants that attack people."

When questioned about the ethical implications of partnering with an American military organization, Deyholos remained pragmatic.

"Knowledge is neutral: what you do with it can be good or evil," he asserted.

"Scientists can try to imagine all the possible applications of their work, but in the end they are not responsible."

## Education better suited to girls: Manitoba prof

WOMEN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Boys respond more to competition as opposed to the cooperative group work practiced in schools," said Sokal.

She also claims that boys are eager to learn when masculine subjects are being studied.

As a way of studying reading capacity in boys, Sokal and her research partner Herb Katz from the University of Winnipeg observed the response of boys who were read books with more masculine themes such as cars or war. The result was that the attitude of boys toward reading changed drastically into a positive perspective.

"Many of the boys believed that reading was a girl's activity," said Sokal.

"They're very conscious of crossing gender lines, much more so than girls."

She added that boys and girls are socialized differently, but schools try to ignore the differences in socialization.

Alternatively, Gartside said that one has to be critical of the research and question why gender roles are being enforced.

"There is such a gender dichotomy," she said. "If we need to bring in the subject of war to engage class, then maybe challenging stereotypes would be the answer."

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THE GATEWAY

HAVE YOU EVER

TAKEN A PHOTO?  
WRITTEN AN ARTICLE?  
LOOKED LIKE THESE HEROIC FOLKS?



ALL CURRENT AND FORMER STUDENTS WITH MORE THAN 5 SUBMISSIONS IN THE GATEWAY NEWSPAPER WILL COUNT AS GATEWAY ALUMNI

Please attend to help spearhead the creation of the new Gateway Alumni Association. We will be electing an Executive Committee that will be responsible for the creation and implementation of this new Association. If interested in running for a position, you must be in attendance.

Gateway Alumni Association Meeting  
Friday, February 27 at 5:00pm  
Alumni Room, Students' Union Building

For more information, contact: Steve Lillibea, Alumni Representative at [stevenl@ualberta.ca](mailto:stevenl@ualberta.ca)

THE GATEWAY

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled by Caitlin Crawshaw

### STUDENT PROTESTERS TEAR-GASSED OUTSIDE QUÉBEC PARLIAMENT

MONTREAL (CUP)—18-year-old Jessica Dubuc didn't intend to breathe in a cloud of tear gas when she left her home just outside of Montreal early last Tuesday morning, but that's exactly what happened later that day when protesters clashed with hundreds of riot cops outside Québec's main parliamentary building.

While a parliamentary commission on postsecondary education funding met inside the building, over 200 protesters rallied for free tuition. The protest began peacefully, until a handful of activists tried to throw the temporary steel fence erected the day before onto the line of riot cops blocking the entrance to the building.

Nearly pushing the sizeable fence onto the cops, several tear gas canisters were fired directly into the crowd and it dispersed almost immediately.

Dubuc was one of the worst hit. She had to be led away from the clouds of gas by friends to a safe spot where medics flushed her eyes with water so she could open them again. Embittered by what she called the riot cops' "impudence," Dubuc said she had no words to describe how poorly she and other peaceful protesters were treated.

"We're not insects, we're human beings. We don't deserve to be fumigated like that," said Dubuc.

While most protesters had gathered to demonstrate peacefully, it was clear that others were there to incite a reaction.

Certain members of the group gathered in front of the building threw eggs, large chunks of ice, and small bags of paint at riot cops, but it wasn't until they started rattling the fence that they managed to provoke a reaction.

"It's a shame, because the more we look stupid, the less people in the common community are going to support us," said Phil Shearing, who plans to attend Concordia University in the fall.

Violence resurged not long after, when activists several blocks from the parliament buildings smashed the wind-

shield of a 1992 Honda Civic while the driver was still inside.

Dave Weatherall, CUP Head Office

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS KEPT OFF UNIVERSITY BOARDS

BURNABY, BC (CUP)—International students say they deserve the opportunity to participate at the highest levels of decision-making at British Columbia's universities.

Although recent changes to the University Act now allow part-time students and residents of other provinces to sit on the board of governors at a given BC university, international students remain left out.

"We pay more fees, we can't work off-campus, and yet we can't even run for our own board of governors positions," said Clement Aapaak, an international student at Simon Fraser University.

The law requires that members of a university's board of governors be Canadian citizens or permanent residents. This rule does not apply to members of a senate, which is a university's highest academic decision-making body.

Aapaak, a student senator and the coordinator of SFU's Teaching Support Staff Union, has twice attempted to run for one of two student positions on his university's 15-member board of governors. Though eligible to vote for the positions, both times he was forced to terminate his candidacy due to the restriction.

International students have the backing of the Canadian Federation of Students on this issue, and now Aapaak wants the support of SFU's board of governors.

The two student members of the board are on side, Aapaak said, but other board members are uncomfortable with taking such a stance.

"The board hasn't been able to consider that position because the rules of order say that you can't willingly go forward with a motion which you know to be in contravention of the law," said Gregg Macdonald, executive director of the SFU student's office.

But, as students in good standing, international students should be able to run for seats on the board, according to Macdonald.

The minister of advanced education was unavailable to comment at press time.

"The very nature of our being here—which is that we are here on study permits—that makes us very vulnerable,"

Aapaak said.

Stephen Hui, British Columbia Bureau

### STUDENT STRUGGLE FOR FOOD STRETCHES ACROSS ONTARIO

ST CATHARINES, ON (CUP)—More than 20 per cent of all Ontario universities are now running some form of food bank service for students.

Michael Conlon, director of research for the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), said the key issue surrounding student poverty is that student loans and grants are not enough to cover the escalating costs of getting an education.

Conlon said CFS managed to get the Ontario government to agree to a tuition freeze, but faced opposition to the proposal from the Council of Ontario Universities—an organization that lobbies on behalf of university presidents across the province.

"The resistance to tuition freezes has been by Western U of T and Queen's. Their primary arguments concern quality of services; they say tuition freezes will inhibit their program funding," he said.

Conlon calls the council's position "naïve," citing evidence from the Harris/Eves Conservative government where any tuition fee increase implemented by universities was offset by an equivalent cut in provincial funding.

Brook University President David Atkinson argued that a tuition freeze is not an adequate solution to the problem.

"No one disagrees with the position that the cost of education is becoming prohibitive for many students and that there needs to be a way found to address that issue," said Atkinson. "By concentrating exclusively on a freeze of tuition, however, other equally important issues around the cost of education get ignored."

Both Conlon and Atkinson agreed that funding for postsecondary education needs to be increased.

It is not just tuition, however, that has fuelled the increasing dependency of students on food banks. The cost of housing has also been a major contributing factor.

"In Toronto, Ottawa and Guelph, we have seen a terrible, terrible, crunch in terms of rent—the previous [Conservative] government lifted rent control, and rent costs skyrocketed. From 1996 until 2000 housing costs have shot up by 60 per cent," said Conlon.

Calum McNeil, Brock Press

## PM meets one-on-one with CESA representatives

The Canadian Federation of Students doesn't feel slighted by exclusion

ADAM GRACINIK  
Ottawa Bureau

OTTAWA (CUP)—Prime Minister Paul Martin has been in office less than two months, but he's already done something Jean Chrétien never did—met with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

In a hastily called rendezvous last Friday, CASA, not the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)—Canada's largest student lobby group—sipped tea with the prime minister for over an hour, in what CASA leaders are calling a brainstorming session in response to the Throne Speech.

"We're pleased that they called us. We value our relationship with Paul Martin and we hope to continue that," said James Kusie, CASA's national director. "We value our relationship with Paul Martin and we hope to continue that."

CASA was pleased with the initiatives announced in the Throne Speech. They welcomed the changes to the Canada Student Loan Program, which include a new grant for low-income students and easier access for loan recipients.

CFS was upset with the announcement, saying that students can look forward to more debt, and that the

government didn't address underfunding to postsecondary education.

For their part, CFS didn't feel slighted by the apparent shunning.

"It's more effective to meet with the people who are engaged on the issue of postsecondary education," said CFS National Chairperson Ian Boyko.

"We're pleased that they called us. We value our relationship with Paul Martin and we hope to continue that."

JAMES KUSIE,  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR, CASA

Boyko added that it hasn't been a top priority of CFS to meet with the prime minister, and critics shouldn't see this as a slap in their face.

CFS Ontario Representative Rick Telfer explained that CFS has met with former prime ministers since its inception in 1981, but that it's a better strategy to meet with policy makers.

In Friday's meeting, among many items, Kusie said his team of four people "quite bluntly" asked the

prime minister if a dedicated transfer fund for postsecondary education was in the plans.

A dedicated fund is the common front student leaders from most education lobby groups have been calling for, which, to their dismay, the Throne Speech didn't address.

"The Readers Digest version is that [the prime minister] told us we have to convince the provinces," Kusie said.

He added that he was upset with the response because, he believes, a dedicated fund for postsecondary education must have leadership from the federal government. "His concern was that any dedicated money would still find its way into health," Kusie added.

The Prime Minister's Office said the meeting with CASA was simply the continuation of a relationship Paul Martin has with the organization. The PMO says Martin is open and willing to meet with student groups from across the country, including CFS.

Kusie said he wants the government to improve the grant announced for low-income Canadians to include more grants after first year. He also said that offering students more loans isn't the solution to rising postsecondary education costs.



# UNION

managing@gateway.ualberta.ca • Tuesday, 24 February, 2004

## Be wary of government studies

If YOU WERE TO ASK ANY JOURNALIST what the most important part of their job is, they might suggest that being objective is the keystone of good journalism. And they'd be right. After all, when one is mandated to report the facts, there's no room to editorialize or make judgments for others. It's up to the readers to form their own opinions.

What of a government, then, trying to get all the facts before it renders a major policy decision? Should it not seek out and present all the facts to the decision-makers before any new law is drafted? Ideally, yes. But according to the Union of Concerned Scientists, a group composed of 20 Nobel laureates and 40 prominent scientists, quite the opposite is occurring in the United States right now.

According to the group, the US government is fudging scientific evidence in order to influence policy decisions. They claim that under both Presidents Nixon and Ford, scientists never felt pressure to "cook" results in either direction. "How times have changed," commented Russell Train, a Republican who served as the Environmental Protection Agency's administrator under Nixon and Ford.

Times have indeed changed, but is this new information? Probably not. Whether or not people were certain of the *de facto* truth regarding a variety of claims posted by the US, I'm sure plenty of folks, like me, are innately suspicious of any governmental claim that, for example, mercury levels in lead paint are just fine, thank you. These concerned scientists are simply outlining concerns I've suspected all along. Now, the more important question is whether or not you should be alarmed by this. And the answer is absolutely, yes, though not for the reasons you're probably thinking.

This dishonesty points to a larger problem: the legitimacy of any claim made by the US, the most prominent of which would be their claim that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. A moot point? Perhaps, especially given that, a few quarts aside, the war in Iraq is all over. But if the Bush administration is lying to its own policymakers in order to pass legislation for their own sinister deeds, who knows what yarns are they spinning to convince the international community of their "noble" intentions.

Regardless of what those yarns are, American lawmakers and international leaders should be wary of any government's claims, regardless of their alleged scientific merit or evidence suggesting those claims may be true. An old cliché instructs people never to judge a book by its cover. I can think of no case in which those tired words were more poignant. Science is not immune to the manipulation of policy governments. It's our job, as conscientious citizens, to examine the practices of our leaders and question their motivations and actions. Those are the responsibilities that come with living in a democracy.

ADAM ROZENHART  
Managing Editor

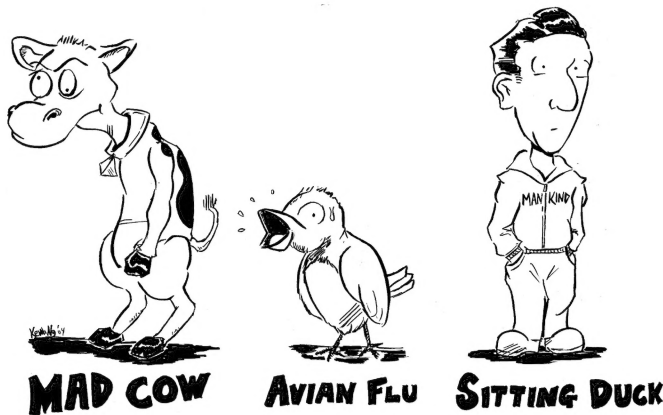
## Sex and the City gone? Who cares!

OVER THE LAST WEEK, columnists and television commentators have obsessed over the finale of the Home Box Office show *Sex and the City*. I guess that, to a certain subset of people, this show was revolutionary in its portrayal of promiscuous single women in their thirties (though not as progressively feminist as something like the *Mary Tyler Moore Show*), but only a handful of people could watch the show by getting expensive HBO subscriptions. Did a show that only a fraction of the audience was able to see warrant all the coverage it got?

Now I understand that this show was important to the mostly-upper-middle-class or lower-upper-class TV analysts who spent all of this time focusing on the tragedy of it leaving television. But, frankly, no one cared. Most of the show's audience probably sees the show either on DVD or on other cheaper cable stations, years after they first air on HBO.

Then, again, at least it beats a new episode of the perennially lame *Celebrity Justice*.

DANIEL KASZOR  
Production Editor



## LETTERS

### Enough anti-communist rhetoric, Backstrom

I agree that symbols should not be used as empty fashion, and that they do indeed have meaning ("Do you know what your T-shirt means?" s. February). I too mourn the fact that Che is selling T-shirts.

Melvin Backstrom, however, seems to believe that if you don't understand the true nature of these symbols (meaning his particularly conservative and anti-leftist interpretation), you must be either ignorant or evil. Amazingly, although I'm certain that Mr. Backstrom would be loathe to admit it, perfectly reasonable people can subscribe to Marxist ideologies, proudly sport the hammer and sickle, and not support the Gulag or Stalinist Russia. In the same vein, the swastika was originally a religious symbol, but rather than ask the awkward question, we prefer to save our bravado for opinion articles.

Perhaps we should all interpret symbols the way Mr. Backstrom does and remove our beloved Maple Leaf since our genocide of the Amerindians was so well executed that it once solicited praise from Hitler. We should cast off our crosses, since they contain the memories of the Crusades. A Québecois sen wearing a fleur-de-lis must support the oppression that sparked the French Revolution and would probably respond "let them eat cake" to any question her symbol might invite.

I personally had my fill of black-and-white anti-communist rhetoric back in the Reagan years.

AJ MILLER  
Education III  
Faculté St Jean

### Kicking 'undesirables' out not the answer

I was saddened to read about Old Strathcona's resistance to the opening of a homeless shelter on 109 street ("Homeless shelter raises ire among Strathcona residents," s. February).

On top of the obvious and most

important safety concerns for homeless people in sub-zero temperatures, this issue brings up vital questions about the community in which we all live.

One opposing resident was quoted as saying, "there are appropriate and inappropriate locations for homeless shelters. The middle of a residential area that is close to schools is inappropriate." But the fact remains that if there is a need for this homeless shelter—and there clearly is—then homeless people, despite the fact that they don't have residences, are members of our "residential" community. They live their lives here, alongside us lucky home-dwellers (our financial status in life is largely a matter of luck), and that means they are a part of our community, not trespassers in it.

As for the matter of the proximity of the shelter to schools, and the implied problem of the exposure of children to undesirable influences, I would ask: what do you want to teach your children about the world? Isn't it more important for them to recognize the inherent equality of all persons despite social and economic differences, than to live in ignorance and fear of the social realities of poverty and homelessness, which will surely only lead to their perpetration?

Essentially, the question is what is our attitude to our fellow community members? Do we tolerate each other solely on the basis of similar financial standing? Do I respect you only because you have a home to go to at the end of the day? Or do we treat each other with unconditional concern, and look for ways to widen our hearts, and our community?

ELISSA WARKENTIN  
English PhD II

### Your T-shirt might offend someone

I just want to say that I totally agree with Mel Backstrom ("Do you know what your T-shirt means?" s. February). I find it funny when people are willing to spend money to bewalking advertisements I think people do this as a status statement letting others know they are able to afford labels like Tommy or Guess.

I agree with the last sentence, "one should at least be aware of

their meaning and not pretend as if they're an exception to their rules."

The statements on T-shirts may not be funny anymore when someone gets offended. I have an example—a rumour I heard that happened a few years ago to a famous movie star from China [she had posed for Esprit several years ago]. She was on a promotional tour in some other part of China wearing a white tank top with a big red solid circle—representative of the Japanese flag—at the centre of it. The people of the city she was visiting got offended (because during World War II, Japan attacked China) and decided to pour shit on her in the streets.

I feel that just because she is famous does not mean she can be ignorant of what the symbols on her clothing represent. I have not idea where she got her top, but if that circle was blue or yellow, I do not think that people would have been so offended by it.

I am not sure if what happened to her was what she deserved but she should have known better. I hope that what happened to her will be a lesson to all to watch out for what symbols or words are on their clothes that may offend other people.

ROSANNA WONG  
Human Ecology III

### Backstrom should have done more research

I have considered the perspective of Mr. Backstrom and his condescending remarks upon the symbolic representations sometimes decorating modern clothing that he discusses in "Do you know what your T-shirt means?" appearing in the Gateway, s. February. While his objections can hold some merit, the inadequacies of his limited interpretation of the mythological significance and emotional ramifications of these symbols reflect an intolerably small amount of study. Before he starts throwing around accusations of "ignorance" and "stupidity," I suggest he do more comprehensive research into the evidence that forms the basis of his claims.

His comments in regards to the swastika do not consider anything but a recent assimilation in the long history of the symbol. Contrary to popular Western belief, the origin

of the swastika is not attributed to the Nazis, but is a symbol of good fortune, prosperity, magic, and power. In Sanskrit swastika means "conductive to wellbeing." Its uses in India include differing interpretations for both the clockwise and counterclockwise symbols (actually called the sauwastika). It appears as a symbolic depiction of Buddha's footsteps, Thor's Hammer, and even passes into Christian iconography as the gammation cross. It also can be found in Mayan and Navajo art. It appears that Backstrom is guilty of only considering a narrow view of the complete significance of what a swastika actually represents.

The USSR's symbols do not only associate themselves with a regime, but also with an ideology. The philosophical principles of Karl Marx are not violent and oppressive; nor were the intentions of the first "five-year plan." To solely associate the Hammer and Sickle, or the Red Star with the errors of the regime, is equivalent to associating the Christian cross with the atrocities of the Crusades, and overlook the intended representation of salvation through sacrifice. In this case, one example does not span the entire meaning of a symbol.

STELLA DOMINICH  
Engineering II

### Not everyone hates Klein's conservatives

In David Berry's s. February opinion, "It's high-time for an old-time revolution," he states that Alberta continues to elect a Conservative government because Albertans are a "people with the memory of a gold-fish"; that is we forget everything come election time. However, it is in fact because Albertans have such excellent memories that we elect a PC government.

We remember that no federal Liberal government has ever done anything to appease our demands for a senate that is elected, equal, and effective, or our demands for a credible voice for Alberta in the election of a government. We remember Trudeau and his hand gestures to protestors from the West, and Chrétien who preferred a "tough love" approach to Western discontent.

PLEASE SEE MORE LETTERS • PAGE 6

# Chiropractic...

## The Choice For Me

Melissa Banyai is a Third-year student from Windsor, Ontario Canada. She graduated from the University of Windsor with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Kinetics achieving honours status each of her four years.

Melissa explored several schools before choosing Logan. She chose Logan because of the hands on approach, diversity of the program and the knowledge of the staff. The Admissions staff is extremely knowledgeable about Canadian issues, the program is excellent and the campus is beautiful. What more could you ask for?

After graduation, Melissa plans to open a multidisciplinary practice offering traditional chiropractic care, rehabilitation and acupuncture. "The chiropractic field has many options and specialties that interest me, the possibilities for helping patients through chiropractic care are endless!"

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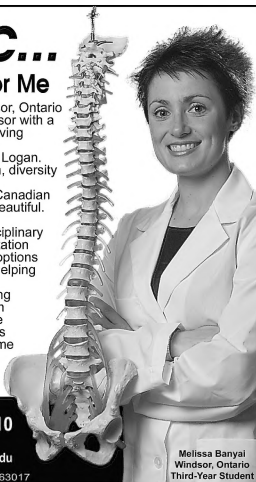
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Melissa Banyai  
Windsor, Ontario  
Third-Year Student

**MORE LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6**  
We remember when Chretien said, "I like to do politics with people from the East. Joe Clark and Stockwell Day are from Alberta, they are a different type."

We remember the unilateral assent to the Kyoto Accord and the implementation of the gun registry despite Western concerns. And above all, we remember Trudeau's National Energy Program that sucked Alberta's economy dry.

There were all creations of a federal Liberal government, and if we were to elect a provincial Liberal government who's to say they wouldn't sell out Alberta like their federal friends have? It's our excellent memories that remind us what the Liberals have done or failed to do. We cannot afford to forget; we need a government that will strengthen Alberta's role in the Confederation.

RENÉE NAUTA  
Science 1

### Backstrom's T-shirt argument isn't that simple

I am writing with regards to Melvin Backstrom's article entitled: "Do you know what your T-shirt means?" (5 February). Although he proposes some strong points in relation to clothing and the use of symbols, I would like to suggest some other possibilities. I believe clothing is used to represent a person's identity and, at least on a subconscious level, we are all tacitly aware of symbols we use to express this identity. Thus, I don't believe it is merely a question of "ignorance, stupidity, or depravity" that dictates why individuals sport certain symbols; I believe it is more complex and not necessarily negative, as Backstrom suggests.

Although the mere thought of another person wearing anything with a swastika sends shivers down the spines of most, perhaps this is a reasonable method of expression for some. It is true that images we place on our garments have inherent meanings; however, these meanings are very subjective and therefore cannot readily be judged by society. Perhaps the individual was wearing this noteworthy shirt for shock value or as a means of displaying power over this oppressive group. What if a Jewish war-camp survivor was seen sporting this symbol? Could this not be seen as empowering? In addition, this symbol may have been worn as a rebellion against the norm: he may not agree with the Nazis' ideals; however, he may support the revolt from social conformity that this symbol denotes.

I believe that symbols used in conjunction with apparel display one's identity on a conscious, and more readily a subconscious level. However, the meaning that the wearer associates with a symbol is not necessarily that which is placed upon the symbol by the general population. This does not mean the individual is ignorant, stupid, or immoral. It simply means they view things differently than the general populace. Therefore, my suggestion, no matter how cliché, is to look deeper into who a person actually is, and not merely the socially-accepted connotations of their dress: every symbol in our society is completely subjective and therefore cannot be judged on the basis of our own individual opinions.

JESSICA FLANDERS  
Human Ecology III

### Purity Test's use of 'AIDS' immature, regressive

The other day when I looked through the Gateway's Purity Test (12 February), I wondered if I'd been sent through a time warp back to the early eighties.

Since when is it cool again to confute AIDS with moral impurity? Did the writers of this quiz go to lunch with Ted Byfield before sitting down to craft it? For one

do not see the act of using AIDS as a metaphor for sin as a tongue-in-cheek transgression: there are more creative and responsible ways to be sensational. Also, the Gateway might want to reconsider making jokes about hooker killing considering there is a serial killer who targets sex workers in this very city.

The Gateway has the right to print whatever its editors deem worthy but maybe there are better targets for your derogatory jokes than sex workers and people with AIDS.

TESS ELSWORTHY  
Arts II

### Virginity not as uncool as Hanasyk suggests

I was very disheartened to read Ms Hanasyk's article "Can't afford to wait? Auction your virginity" (5 February). The decision made by Ms Reid to sell herself to pay her tuition, while sad, is not what caught my attention. Later in the article, there are suggestions made as to why Ms Reid would give up her virginity in order to pay tuition; one of them says that she "probably feels the sting of the word 'virgin,'" and that by prostituting herself to pay tuition, this will "help her become more of a woman in the eyes of her friends."

One might ask how this is different from the one-night stands that occur after having a little too much at the bar. What about those who are proud to be virgins (yes, there are people who actually do abstain until marriage, myself included)? When I hear the word "virgin" I feel a sense of pride—I have been able to break the mold of social conformity.

If I'm required to work for minimum wage at a little store doing menial tasks for four summers with little respect being paid to me by others, I think I can pay that price rather than lose myself to someone or something that, in the big scheme of things, will cost me more than I am willing to pay.

JESSICA BILOBROWKA  
Pre-Vect I

### Higgins should take a look at her job description

I was thoroughly shocked and enraged when I read a letter to the editor from Phys Ed & Rec Councilor Holly Higgins ("Not councilors' jobs to make students care," 12 February).

Ms Higgins asserts that "there is no doubt that apathetic students will always exist [1] and it's not our job to make them care, but it is our job to keep them informed." Well, Ms Higgins, I call bullshit.

Yes, many students are apathetic with regards to the SU, and that might never change. But I would argue that it is absolutely your job to make sure students care about the issues affecting their academic and non-academic lives. To say that it isn't your job to make them care suggests a distressing amount of apathy on your part as well. Maybe you ought to take another look at your job description and reconsider how you approach your job as a student councilor.

KENNETH BAKER  
Science III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@gatewayjournal.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.



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# U-Pass doomed to failure



JAKE  
TROUGHTON

It's taken nearly as long as a typical wait at an Edmonton Transit System bus stop, but after years of talk, proponents of a universal bus pass are finally ready to take the first real step toward making the proposal a reality. But while the Students' Union's upcoming U-Pass referendum marks the only significant progress made on the issue thus far, it's somewhat reminiscent of the first steps up the stairs from the University LRT station; there's still a daunting climb ahead, and there's bound to be a mob of people determined to get in your way and push you around as you ascend. In the end, while the U-Pass is an attractive idea, the cost of overcoming the various obstacles would be so high that it just isn't worth pursuing.

During next week's election, those students who bother to vote will be asked if they want the SU to enter negotiations with ETS to institute a mandatory U-Pass for A to F students, at a cost of no more than \$60 per term. Of course, entering negotiations is a far cry from signing a contract, so even calling it a U-Pass referendum is somewhat misleading: even if it passes, the actual implementation of the pass will still be far from certain, and years away if it does happen.

It's not made any likelier by the

"A survey ETS conducted said that about three-quarters of students already use transit to get to school, and if that number is anywhere near correct then they'd most likely be forfeiting hundreds of thousands of dollars of revenue per term even at the price they're offering now."

inclusion of a \$60 price limit in the referendum question. The idea is that the U-Pass should have a minimal effect on those students who don't take the bus, but the limit seems rather silly on the face of it, given that ETS has offered a price of \$120 per term and has given no indication that they will have any lower.

Nor should they be expected to, really. A survey ETS conducted said that about three-quarters of students already use transit to get to school, and if that number is anywhere near correct then they'd most likely be forfeiting hundreds of thousands of dollars of revenue per term even at the price they're offering now. Given the already slow and infrequent service they provide, and the near impossibility of convincing city council to increase their budget, lowering their U-Pass price any further would probably force them to cut service to the point where a bus pass wouldn't really be worth it, even at the low cost.

For the most part, the "Yes" side of the referendum seems to understand this. So rather than uselessly lobbying ETS for a lower price, they suggest that the SU approach government and other organizations for funding to help cover the \$60 difference, including asking the federal government

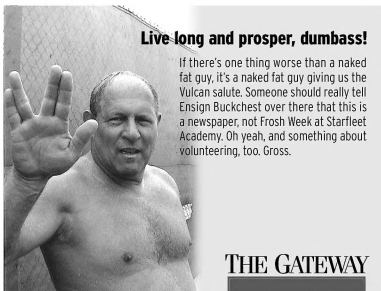
for funding under its commitment to comply with the Kyoto protocol.

There's probably some money to be had that way, particularly with elections likely for all three levels of government this year. But, according to my calculations, the required funding would amount to well over \$3 million per year, every year. Even if governments are committed to promoting public transit, that's a lot of money to spend to provide bus passes for students at one school. Given that a significant number of those students already take the bus, and at least a fair number of the rest—those who live on or near campus, for instance—won't take it regularly even if forced to purchase a pass, it will be difficult to convince anyone that the funding would be worthwhile.

A U-Pass would unquestionably make transportation much cheaper and easier for the majority of students, which is why the referendum will probably pass. But any actual agreement would require a massive amount of money somehow being found for what would be a relatively slight increase in transit usage. And as nice that a U-Pass would be for most students, actually implementing it in the cost is neither likely nor worth the effort.

## Live long and prosper, dumbass!

If there's one thing worse than a naked fat guy, it's a naked fat guy giving us the Vulcan salute. Someone should really tell Ensign Buckchest over there that this is a newspaper, not Frosh Week at Starfleet Academy. Oh yeah, and something about volunteering, too. Gross.



## THE GATEWAY

### THE EDMONTON CONSULAR BALL SCHOLARSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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\* Applicants will be notified by mail of the Committee's decision by April 12, 2004. Winners will be awarded the scholarship at a ceremony during the Edmonton Consular Ball.  
\*\*At the conclusion of the study, the completed research project should be submitted to the Chair, Consular Ball Scholarship Committee for forwarding to the Consular Corps.

## Insult Dog shamelessly stolen from Canada



ROB  
PURSIEWICZ

"French-Canadians are easily manipulated by puppets, says PM-wannabe Steven Harper: 'You don't start telling people in Quebec they have to speak another language. That's completely unacceptable.' Calm down, Steven. It's only a puppet whose routine revolves around the word 'poop.'"

Some of us watched Conan O'Brien's weeklong tryst in Canada with keen interest and a sense of patriotic fervor. We giggled innocently as Conan took playful jabs at Canadian culture, using stereotypes that we had all heard before but still endeared our sense of delicate nationalism.

And we may have laughed or even nodded in agreement as Conan's puppet character, Triumph the Insult Comic Dog, viciously insulted Quebecers. Insult is what the name implies, and insult, my friends, is exactly what the puppet did—and triumphantly, at that.

So naturally, some government bigwigs, embodying the liberalism they so keenly represent, lashed out against this cigar-toting plastic puppet's antics. A friggin' puppet, which our half-million tax dollars helped bring to Ontario for a week, had committed the worst crime in the entire history of Canada: said insensitive things about Quebecers.

French-Canadians are easily manipulated by puppets, says PM-wannabe Steven Harper: "You don't start telling people in Quebec they have to speak another language. That's completely unacceptable." Calm down, Steven. It's only a puppet whose routine revolves around the word "poop." And it was a joke, at that. Now laugh, Steven. Laugh.

Yes, even though freedom of speech is a highly valued democratic ideal, puppets saying mean things

about French Canadians must not be tolerated. Just as, say, *Mein Kampf* was banned from Chapters stores just a few years ago, so should the disgusting demagoguery of insult-bearing puppets spewing insults at Quebecers. Ban racist puppets, I say! All of them, even the American ones!

And so it goes. But make absolutely no mistake: the worst thing about this melodramatic episode was not what that demonic puppet said, or some politician's response, or whether you laughed at it or just found it childish, nor was it the tax dollars wasted, nor the obnoxious crowd, nor the fact that I somehow equated Hitler's book to a harmless puppet in the previous paragraph. No, the most infuriating aspect of the whole episode is the fact that Triumph is an obvious copy of Canada's own Ed the Sock.

The reason people should've been angered by Triumph's display was that our own Canadian creation, Ed the Sock, had had his blunt, bitchy, cigar-smoking persona raped and pillaged by the Conanites. Stephen Kernzer, the man behind Ed since the puppet's birth in 1987, sent a tape to Conan's people in the mid-nineties, but was denied a job—and a few months later, Triumph popped up. "People ripping me off," Kernzer blundered. The Sock raged against Conan: "Don't even talk to me about that piece of crap rip-off. It's amazing."

Robert Smigel, known from *Saturday Night Live*, is the man behind Triumph. Smigel accused now-defunct Pets.com of stealing the Triumph (and therefore, Ed) idea for their mascot, "a watered-down, less funny, corporatized version of Triumph." The *Ben Stiller* Show had Skank The Sock, but the show was cancelled before Kernzer could justifiably sue. "I've seen these impostors come and go. I've been around more than a decade and I'll still be around when these two latest pretenders are being used to clean windows by squeeze kids," said he.

But Conan thinks otherwise: "I hate to disappoint Ed the Sock, but grumpy puppets have been a mainstay of comedy for a long time. The grouchy puppet is not unlike the depressed clown. It's been a comedy staple for 40 years." Whether or not Conan is correct, Ed doesn't "worry about Triumph, because Triumph is a one-note joke." And that, clearly, is something all Canadians can poop on.

So, some advice to those whining about a puppet and pretending to fight for Quebecers: it's time to see the forest for the trees. There are more important things to take issue with—such as Canadian cultural products, like Ed the Sock, being stolen and transformed into watered-down American versions like Triumph the Insult Comic Dog. Insulting, indeed.

## AP!RG elections

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## THE GATEWAY IS HIRING!



### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Gateway is accepting applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief for the 2004-2005 publishing year. The term runs from 1 May 2004 to 30 April 2005 and pays \$1475/mo\* from mid-August to April. Applicants must plan to be enrolled at the U of A in at least one class per semester for the 2004/2005 school year; must be available to work varying hours; must have computer and layout skills; and will preferably have been a Gateway editor, or possess equivalent leadership and editorial experience.\*\* Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Don Ivesson, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca)** by noon on Friday 27 February 2004. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

### LINE EDITORS

The Gateway is accepting applications for the following line editor positions\*\* for the 2004-2005 publishing year:

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NEWS EDITOR  
OPINION EDITOR  
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PHOTO EDITOR  
PRODUCTION EDITOR

All terms run from 1 May 2003 to 30 April 2004. The paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April, during which Managing and Senior News will receive \$1315\* per month; News, Opinion, Sports, Entertainment, Photo and Production will receive \$1195\* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Don Ivesson, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca)** by noon on Friday 5 March 2004. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

### GENERAL STAFF MEETING

All current Gateway volunteers are asked to attend a General Staff Meeting where volunteer and editor reps for the Editor-in-Chief and Line Editor hiring committees will be selected. Those with three or more contributions to the Gateway in the last eight months are eligible both to run for, and vote on, these volunteer rep positions. Please be at the Gateway offices at 4:00 on Thursday the 26th of February or be square.

\* Pay will be adjusted for CPI over the summer and may increase.

\*\* Complete job descriptions (subject to change) are available at [www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hr/hiring/](http://www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hr/hiring/)

THE GATEWAY

# American civil rights demand the allowance of same-sex marriage

BROOKES  
MERRITT



Depending on how you feel about gay marriage, Gavin Newsom, the new mayor of San Francisco, is either a pioneer or a rat.

Last week, he defied California state law by having city clerks remove gender references from local marriage forms. Newsom said that San Francisco's marriage regulations violated the state Constitution, which he said "leaves no room for any form of discrimination."

If you tend to favour Newsom as a rodent, you might as well add my name to your list. Denying same-sex couples the right to marry under the law is discrimination. If Newsom's bold move is regarded by conservative critics as a political stunt, then it must be regarded by liberals as an impassioned stirring of the civil rights pot.

How can a country that fought so passionately against discrimination of race and colour turn a blind eye to discrimination based on sexual orientation? I've read the reasons for opposing civil marriage for same-sex couples. Broken down, they're just as hollow as the fear and intolerance that foster racism and bigotry. Traditionalists oppose same-sex couples' use of the term "marriage," suggesting they adopt another word to define their union; by identifying same-sex couples as distinct, we're only separating them fur-

ther from the rest of us—separate is not the same as equal.

If George W. Bush and his Constitutional amendments really want to protect the "sanctity" of marriage, they should question why so many of us have affairs, and why over half of all marriages end in divorce. Unless they're blaming those issues on homosexuals, I don't see how allowing same-sex couples into the club could possibly damage the "fragile sanctity" of marriage any further than heterosexuals have already.

Sanctity needs to be found and honoured within a marriage; it cannot exist simply because it is imposed extrinsically. Civil rights, on the other hand, must exist in such a fashion. Our rights are awarded to all of us on the same terms, without regard to race. It follows, then, that rights should be upheld without regard to sexual orientation. Civil rights allow us to express our beliefs free of discrimination; they are the defining characteristic of North American democracy. They are not contingent upon the approval of others, but solely on our citizenship as Canadians and Americans.

Present-day attitudes against same-sex marriage in the United States are reminiscent of the bans that once existed against interracial marriage. In the late 1940s, US courts refused to marry couples of different colour; 90 per cent of the public agreed such unions were against the definition of marriage.

Sound familiar? Well, guess what California did? They ignored the ban, and started legally marrying interracial couples in 1948. California chose

not to put restrictions on discrimination, and bravely shamed the rest of the States for their hypocrisy. The statement was clear: In California, equal means equal. By 1970, the US Supreme Court had fallen in line. Hopefully, fifty years later, acceptance lies with little patience.

Religious opponents are even more reluctant to adjust their views; acceptance under faith takes much more time. Fortunately, religious opposition to same-sex marriage has no place in this debate. Religious and civil rights are independent. The issue here is marriage under the law, not marriage under God.

Same-sex marriages hurt no one; divisiveness over the issue is harming us all. When Bush addressed his opposition to same-sex marriage during the State of the Union, he spoke with the same fervour as when he reaffirmed his commitment to the war on terror. Marriage rights for same-sex couples ensure they be given the same social support other couples receive: things like equitable health coverage, parental status, property rights, and insurance compensation.

If the American federal government is lumping homosexual couples into the same category as terrorists, I suggest it's time they scrutinize not their marriage customs, but the sanctity of their civil rights. It's time we demand the spirit of dignity and equality be returned to our elected officials. It's time we elect officials that see the difference between homosexuals asking to be treated with the same equality afforded women and racial minorities, and the threat of terrorists.

## Gender equality no longer just a lofty goal



PATRICK  
SUNDERLAND

This is veritable that we as a society have reached a evidence age of enlightenment. No longer is it uncommon to run into a female who swears they can "drink a grown man under the table," and the clubs, professions, and sports historically dominated by men—like puna wrestling—are quickly being overrun by enterprising ladies.

Much like the bookkeeping field, my impression of the Conservative Party centered on an image of cranky grey-haired Rotarians, smoking cigars at the Elks club guffawing about taxes. Then along came Belinda. Her policies aside, Ms Stronach represents a positive force for women as a captain of industry, and a political leader with more shine than the characterless goofballs she's running against for the party leadership. Nevermind the media's misuses concerning her Barbie-doll image; Stephen Harper is an out-of-the-box Ken doll, meaning I'm convinced he has no genitals.

Anyhow, I'm proud to live in a country where trivialities such as military rank, religious affiliation, and especially gender are irrelevant qualifications by which to front a political campaign. As much as I'll be cheering any of the Democratic candidates in the upcoming election down south, I still can't get over the obvious gender gap prevalent in US politics.

Apparently, the American electorate will only vote for bold family men accompanied by a tall, nurturing wife who may take up humanitarian, nurturing initiatives as a First Lady. I guess the thinking is that if someone from the fairer sex was to ever become leader of the free world, the

military agenda would fall to pieces and private industry would become bloated by new corporate taxes designed to support a super-structured national daycare initiative. That's what Thatcherism was, right?

In any event, the 21st century is shaping up to become the dawn of real gender equality. At a risk of debasing my argument, just look at reality TV's nouveau belle, *The Apprentice*. The girls are kicking ass, and why? Because they've got brass balls, that's why. Putting demographics about female representation in politics, and average salaries of men versus women aside, the fairer sex is rapidly catching up in the modern competitive environment.

Let's apply this rant to something basic such as dating. I like to put a girl through a routine trial-by-fire to know right away if she's of any substance or a mere femme-bot. Drinking and playing pool has become the natural evolution of sexual selection, and I am more comfortable in these environments. If she insists on drinking over and expensive drinks and fumbles her pool cue in a fit of giggly nervousness, then you're in trouble. Any modern woman would never play this card. If she's up to the task, she'll tell you there are three white bunnies on the Pilsner label and would be a little more than crestfallen to lose at any barroom game.

Because it's these girls, I tell you, with whom you can spend quality time with ripping off bar owners, drinking 40s in the parking lot with your buddies before entering the club. And if you're lucky, she'll even hide a mickie in her purse for you.

# With Paul Martin, we're in good hands



ADAM  
SNIDER

Over the past few weeks, the increasingly small number of Canadians who have not yet become jaded and apathetic toward federal politics has been watching our new Prime Minister, Paul Martin, in action. While I wouldn't normally judge a man on only a few weeks' performance, I feel confident in saying the Paul Martin is doing a helluva great job.

He certainly talks to the talk of Canadian federal politics, as anyone who watched the recent CBC special *Your Turn with the Prime Minister of Canada* will attest. Martin's responses to audience questions were often so clever that it would seem as though he hadn't actually answered the question—at least to the untrained observer. In reality, Mr Martin did an excellent job of answering tough questions, leaving only one woman unsatisfied with his response to her question and she was very clearly stupid—come on lady; he said he was going to help out our military. What more do you want?

This programme also showed viewers that the Prime Minister is a regular guy who cares about the views of regular Canadians as he occasionally referred questions, which he clearly understood, back to the questioner with a "What do you think?"

The Prime Minister also cares about family values—he's made sure his family business like many did during his time in politics—and has the ethics to back it up. In regard to the recent sponsorship/advertising scandal, Martin has vowed that he will not tolerate such things while he

is PM. He will set up a public inquiry into the matter and get to bottom of things. Martin has promised that those responsible for this fiasco will suffer the consequences of their actions. It's obvious that Martin had no knowledge that money was being squandered during the Chrétien era. He was, after all, only the Finance Minister.

Of course, being in touch with the people means nothing to a Prime Minister lacks vision—and Martin is nothing if not a visionary. He has stated that he will "improve our military" by re-evaluating Canada's role in areas such as international peacekeeping. He has also promised to inject more money into the military, as well as healthcare and education. The Chrétien government raped and pillaged spending in these areas—luckily

Mr Martin is on the scene to repair the damage. Freed from the oppressive yoke of the Chrétien's fiscal policy, Martin can show his true colours and increase spending on social programs—while cutting taxes, of course. After all, who wants to pay for insalubrious rights like healthcare and education?

Whether you are an informed voter or apathetic toward national politics, you can rest assured that when the Liberal party wins the next election, the country will be in good hands. Paul Martin is a visionary and a political mastermind. From his clear position on the issues to his concern for what ordinary Canadians think, Paul Martin will certainly be Canada's greatest Prime Minister since Jean Chrétien.

## THE BURLAP SACK

This dual sack beating will be meted out to two of our most prominent conservative politicians: the Right Honourable Ralph Klein and the right ludicrous Belinda Stronach.

The reason these two terrible Tories are in the sack has to do with the most beloved of Canadian institutions, our healthcare system; on the front page of the last Friday's *Globe and Mail*, both Klein and Stronach decided to shit all over our precious in their own special way.

First, Klein left his mark by threatening to pull out of the Canada Health Act, just in time for this week's Council of the Federation meetings. The fearless Premier even suggested we could survive without the \$12 billion or so the system provides through the time-tested methods of delisting services, slapping user fees on others and even outright privatizing a few more. Now,

this might just turn out to be Klein being Klein, by which I mean talking big for the reporters to get himself a headline, but there are certain things that are too sacred to use as bargaining chips, and people's health is one of them.

This is what makes Stronach's comments even more frightening, as she seems serious. The beloved Belinda, also in an interview with the *Globe and Mail*, came right out and said that a two-tier health system might just be the way to go to take care of the burgeoning costs of keeping people healthy. Yes sir, nothing like appealing the rich whilst flogging the poor to solve all our problems.

For these transgressions, both politicians deserve a nice, long sack beating. And they can pay for their own damn medical bills when they get out.

DAVID BERRY

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.*

# Grandin apartment stabbing an attack on the entire community



AARON  
BRAATEN

Last Tuesday, a 21-year-old man raped, slashed, stabbed and killed a 33-year-old Edmonton teacher in her Grandin apartment building. Not only do I live in this quiet neighbourhood, I live in the same building. Like many Edmontonians, I am going through the entire list of hows and whys concerning this horrible event. I am outraged and angered at the senseless violence directed at a female, as well as the loss of trust and sense of safety not only in my building, but in this city.

From what the police can tell, the victim did not know her attacker, a feature that makes this stabbing truly frightening. It did not happen in a dark alley but in the safety of the victim's home, probably while she was getting ready for work. Police reports indicate that the assailant, Ryan Huppie, may have known some people in the building or stolen a key from somewhere. However, Huppie could have pulled the oldest trick in the book—he may have pretended to be waiting for a cab or some friend in the foyer and walked right in the second set of doors

during the morning rush. Perhaps after rattling a few doorknobs on various floors he found an unlocked door and did his evil deeds.

I believe that when we all meet our Maker we will be judged by the same standards we judge others by. I don't think, however, that it is judgmental to demand that Ryan Huppie be forced to see the costs he has imposed on the residents of this building, neighbourhood and city. First and foremost is the insurmountable damage he has inflicted upon a woman in the sanctity of her own home, the long-term damage to her psyche and spirit as well as the damage his actions have caused her family, colleagues and students. In comparison to that, the victim's medical costs and costs of hiring security guards to make residents sign in and out while every lock in the building is changed seems like a paltry sum. But still, someone other than Huppie pays.

The real damages do not have a dollar sign attached to them. Damage has been done to the sense of community, trust and peace that were so characteristic of 110 Street, with its French-Catholic Church, retirement homes and elementary school. The damage is done to the little elderly ladies who live alone and call young guys like me "Deas." Huppie has done damage to females who think they can escape random attacks by using SafeWalk, or some other set of best practices.

No amount of safe space, books, programs or even common sense can stop an attack like this, which begs the question: was the victim's door unlocked? If not, why? How many people actually keep their apartment doors locked at all times? Whatever the percentage is, I'll bet it's increased in the past few days right across town. Had I not been in Calgary that morning, I might have run into Ryan Huppie on my way to school as he fled the building into the back alley. Or worse, my wife, who was home alone, could have crossed his path on her way to work. Thinking about the possibilities, I come close to wishing I were there to deal with Huppie using the business end of my 26-ounce framing hammer. It's wrong to repay violence with violence, but it's so tempting.

I have used words like "random" and "addict" to describe Ryan Huppie, but I realize that he is a real person who has a family, and they are likely tormented as much as any of us, but with a greater sense of shame. It would be presumptuous to speculate about a troubled upbringing. Huppie was potentially involved with the "wrong" crowd, but they can't be blamed for this. Others beside myself won't allow that the "system" or drugs or alcohol compelled him to do it. Huppie inflicted this violence on an entire community, and this is what makes his actions truly unique.



## Whееееееееееееее!

Everybody has to have an adventure once in a while, right? Some people choose to become stuffed dinosaurs and fly strange pieces of computer equipment through space. Other people choose to write for our opinion section.

If you have ideas or opinions about just about anything, you can make yourself heard. Not like in space. You can't hear anything there, silly.

**Opinion Meetings: 3-04 SUB  
Thursdays at 4:00 pm**

## THE GATEWAY

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## SPORTS IN BRIEF

## Hockey

The **Golden Bears** (26-0-2) concluded their undefeated season this weekend against the Lethbridge Pronghorns (20-2-4). Without mercy, the Bears lit up the Pronghorns for 20 goals over the two games. Friday's matchup saw the Bears spread their offense getting goals from nine different players en route to the 9-1 final. Saturday had two large individual efforts from defenseman Harlan Anderson and centre Tyler Shyunka who each tallied a hat trick in the 11-1 blowout. The Bears will open their first playoff series against UBC next weekend at Clare Drake Arena.

The **Pandas** began their 2004 playoff campaign in a best-of-three Canada West Semifinal matchup against Lethbridge. Alberta made quick work of the Pronghorns winning 8-1 in game one, and 4-0 in game two. Forward Danielle Bougeois scored a pair of goals in each game, while goaltender Andrea Thomas recorded the shutout on Saturday.

## Basketball

The **Golden Bears** basketball team opened their playoff season at home against the Saskatchewan Huskies in a best-of-three Canada West Central Division Semifinal this weekend. It only took two games for the Bears to close the series as they won 90-64 on Friday, and 77-74 on Saturday. Bears guard Tyler Coston led the team with 22 points on Friday, while guards Phil Scherer and Mike Melnychuk led the way on Saturday with 18 apiece. The homestand marked the last appearances in the Main Gym for Scherer and post Kevin Petterson.

## Volleyball

The **Pandas** hosted the Regina Cougars in a best-of-three Canada West Quarter-final this weekend in the Main Gym. Alberta opened the series strong winning the first match in three straight sets, but Regina was able to push the Pandas to five sets in the second match on Sunday. The Pandas prevailed to close out the series (25-20, 16-25, 25-23, 22-25, 15-11), which solidified the Bears' right to host the Canada West Final Four tournament next weekend. Left side Tawana Wardlaw led the Pandas in kills with eleven on Saturday, while side Chelsea Grimson led with 17 on Sunday.

The **Golden Bears** also hosted their first round of playoffs against the Winnipeg Wesmen this weekend. The underdog Wesmen gave the Bears a bit of a scare on Thursday by winning the first match in straight sets (25-20, 25-22, 27-25). The Bears bounced back Friday with a straight-set victory of their own (25-19, 27-25, 25-22), and concluded the series with a 3-1 (28-30, 25-14, 25-17, 25-21) victory on Saturday. Bears power forward Aaron Schuller led the team in kills in the first two matches with eleven on Thursday and 15 on Friday, while right side Jeremy King led with 18 on Saturday that included the series winner.

## Wrestling

The Butterdome was the site for this year's Canada West wrestling Finals. Alberta showcased their fresh-faced lineup with only three wrestlers who've used more than two years of CIS eligibility. Despite the inexperience, the team was able to qualify five wrestlers for the CIS National tournament in two weeks in St. Catherine's, Ontario. Both the men's and the women's teams finished in fifth out of the six teams that attended the tournament.

Veteran wrestler Heidi Kulak qualified on the women's side with a second place finish in the 61kg category. Joining Kulak will be rookie Jaclyn Wedgwood who finished in second place in the 80kg weight class.

Heidi's younger brother Anthony Kulak also qualified with a third-place finish in the 54kg weight class. Joe Slobodan (57kg) and Jarret Wall (72kg) also qualified with third place finishes.



ANOTHER AND ANOTHER... Pronghorns goalie Jamie McCaig lets in one of the 20 Bears goals scored over the weekend.

JEFFREY GREENAUS

## Golden Bears complete third undefeated hockey season in team history

ROSS PRUSIAKOWSKI  
& JAKE TROUGHTON  
Sports Writers

A pair of blowouts over the weekend served as a fitting finale to one of the most dominant seasons in Canada West hockey history, as the Golden Bears completed the conference's first undefeated campaign in over four decades.

The Bears completed their amazing regular season this weekend with victories of 9-1 and 11-1 over the hapless Lethbridge Pronghorns (4-20-4), stretching their conference record to 26-0-2. The extraordinary year saw the Bears join their predecessors from 1960-61 (7-0-1) and 1956-57 (10-0-0) as the only teams to go undefeated during a season of Canada West men's hockey, and become the first team to do so since the schedule was extended. Including exhibition games, this year's team has been a picture perfect 35-0-2, making a case for themselves as the best team in conference history.

"We're very proud [of the record], and we should be," said Bears head coach Rob Daum

after Saturday's season finale. "I think the magnitude of it escapes me; it's difficult to put into words how difficult this is."

But while the Bears are savouring their success, they're being careful not to treat the record as the conclusion to their season. "We understand that it's only a step, and no one's saying more than that, but it's quite a step," said Daum.

This weekend's series was the last tuneup for the Bears before they tackle the playoffs. The undisciplined Pronghorns stomped to the penalty box, giving a robust Bears powerplay plenty of time to work with as they steamrolled the Lethbridge squad. Bears forward Kevin Marsh, who notched a goal and five assists in Saturday's game, says that along with the pride of their record, the offensive outburst will help the team mentally going into the playoffs.

"We got a lot of goals this weekend, and the best thing about that is some guys that haven't scored a lot lately get some confidence," he said.

For veteran defenceman Jeff Tron, who scored twice on the weekend, the unbeaten streak is satisfying, but he insists that there'll be no time to

savour it once the playoffs begin.

"It's a very nice accomplishment, but what it really boils down to is winning the last game of the year when it really counts," he said. "The main thing is to get ready for the playoffs and make sure we're prepared for that."

While completing the season undefeated was a great accomplishment, few players were willing to dwell on it, preferring to look towards the playoffs in anticipation of an even larger goal. First-year forward Tim Krymsa says he's looking forward to entering the playoffs without having experienced defeat.

"I knew coming in [to the Bears] that this was a great program," said Krymsa, who scored a goal and added two helpers against Lethbridge. "Hopefully, to accomplish something like this is just the first step, and we can go all the way from here."

The Bears now have a bye week to celebrate their near-perfection before returning to action at Clare Drake at 7:30pm on 5 March for the first game of a Canada West semi-final series against the winner of next weekend's UBC-Calgary quarter-final.

## Basketball Bears eliminate Huskies, set to take on Calgary

JOEL CHURY  
Sports Editor

With the exception of those planning on making the trip to Calgary next weekend, University of Alberta basketball fans saw star point-guard Phil Scherer play in a Bears jersey for the last time this past Saturday. Following a 90-64 win on Friday night, Scherer and his teammates successfully fended off a desperate Saskatchewan Huskies team winning 77-74 the next night to win their first-round playoff series.

"This was my last game at home; it's kind of sad," said Scherer after his 18-point Saturday performance. "I already mentally prepared for this on Senior Night, and got the tears out of the way. But it's done, it's over, and I'll glad I'm moving on."

While solid big man Phil Sudol nursed a torn ACL on the sidelines, Scherer and his teammates shuffled up the offense, spreading points around the floor. Fellow posts Kevin Petterson, Brandon Park and Scott Gordon all stepped up to fill the playing time lost with the absence of Sudol. "You can't replace a guy like Phil Sudol," he's probably one of the best players in Canada. All you can do is hope that everyone else can step up to best fill in his shoes," said Scherer.

In the absence of Sudol, the Bears were only out-rebounded 35-34 and dominated the take-aways with 13 steals to Saskatchewan's seven. Scherer didn't disappoint in this department, leading the team with seven steals on the night.

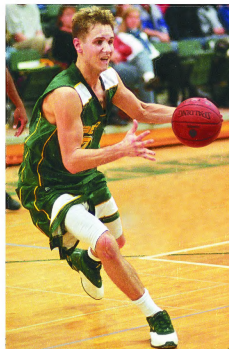
But the team showed moments of doubt during the game following the blowout on Friday. Despite being outscored in the second half, the Bears were able to protect their lead until the clock finally expired, leaving only a three-point separation. "They're a better team than they showed Friday night where we jumped on them early and made a lot of shots. Tonight they went into a zone [formation], and we missed a lot of open shots, which led us to start questioning ourselves and that gave [the Huskies] a lot of confidence," head coach Don Horwood said Saturday. "It doesn't take much in a game at this level to switch things around, and for me personally I'm just glad we won the game. I'd hate to have had to come back here Sunday afternoon."

The Bears were happy to sweep the series, making quick work of the first round. "We definitely wanted to get this over in two, we didn't want to waste any time," said guard Tyson Jones. "Last night we put them in the coffin, and tonight we nailed them in the coffin."

"Not only did we need to secure this series in two to help our status in the final four, but we also needed the rest," added Scherer.

Next weekend, the Bears travel to take on Calgary, who finished in first above the Bears with one more win on the season. Calgary won the regular season series against Alberta with a 3-1 record, but Horwood believes his team is on par with their provincial counterparts. "In Calgary, it's going to come down to who shoots

the ball better, and in the games that we lost to them this year, we had the same kind of shots that we had tonight; we didn't make them while they made theirs," said Horwood. "But I'm confident in this team as they're continually showing improvement, and we're ready to go down to Calgary to have a go at them."



CORY WALKERS

NICE HANDLE Bears guard Mike Melnychuk.



# Volleyball Pandas sweep Regina, win right to host Canada West Finals

JOEL CHURRY  
Sports Editor

Before eventually sweeping the series in two matches, the Pandas volleyball team allowed the visiting Regina Cougars a glimpse of hope on Sunday. After winning three straight sets on Saturday evening, Sunday's tilt needed all five sets to decide the fate of the Pandas, and subsequently the location of the Canada West Final Four tournament. Riding on the strength of an eight-point rally in the fifth set, the Pandas sent the Cougars home with the loss after a well-fought battle (25-20, 16-25, 25-23, 22-25, 15-11).

Winning the series took some pressure off the team. "We were really thrilled about finishing first in the season, but you'd hate to finish first in the league only to blow your quarter-final and the right to host the tournament," said Pandas head coach Laurie Eisler. "We wanted this really bad, as we wanted to play at home. We're comfortable here, and if there is in fact an edge to playing at home, we'll take that."

But Regina put up a fight, as Saturday's match closed with a 26-24 set for the Pandas which threatened to push into a fourth, showing that the Cougars wouldn't just lay down for the entire series. The Pandas first game lost was a shelling 16-25 in the second set on Sunday. "[In that second set] every time we lost a point we'd ask ourselves, 'what's going on here' which made us want to get back out there and fix the problem," said Pandas left side Chelsea Grimson, who led Sunday's match with 17 kills and served on the eight-point rally in the fifth.



PERIPHERAL BUMPING Pandas left side Chelsea Grimson returns this serve.

"Anytime you're team gets forced into a fifth set, you really find out what you're made of, and I'm liking what I'm seeing. It's not perfect, as we let them get back in it, but Chelsea served some bullets," said Eisler. "But then they just turned around and served some bullets right back at us, so it was all good preparation for us going into next week."

The Pandas look forward to hosting next week in the Main Gym, as they

feel the familiarity of home will give them the edge to win in front of their fans. "That's totally to our advantage. We get to sleep in our own beds, eat our own food. I'm sure the other three teams are going to come hard, but it won't be in their gym," said Grimson.

The tournament begins next Friday, with the Pandas taking on fourth-ranked Manitoba at 8pm in the Main Gym. The gold-medal match will take place the following night at 8pm.

## Bears volleyballers fight back to win playoff series

RYAN OHASHI  
Sports Writer

The second-ranked U of A volleyball team will undoubtedly breathe a sigh of relief after closing out a wild opening playoff series against the fifth-ranked Winnipeg Wesmen with a 3-1 (28-30, 25-14, 25-17, 25-21) win on Saturday in the Main Gym. With the win, the Bears have clinched a berth in the Canada West Final Four next weekend in Manitoba and a trip to the CIS championships the following weekend.

After sweeping the visiting Wesmen in their two previous meetings this season, a fired-up Winnipeg offence led by Stephen Ens (15 kills) shocked the Bears, taking Thursday's opening match of the best-of-three series 3-0 (25-20, 25-22, 29-27). But a poised and confident Golden Bears squad came out swinging the next night, led by an inspired performance from power Aaron Schulha, who tallied a game-leading 15 kills, four service aces and six digs in the 3-0 victory.

"We talked about it, and there is really no tomorrow," the 6'2" power from Harry Ainlay said. "We know we can't lose any more for the rest of the year."

Saturday's match started out slow for the Bears as they immediately fell behind 0-1 after a back-and-forth first game. But with the playoffs on the line, the Bears rallied to roll through the final three games and take the Saturday match.

"There was a sense of urgency, but we weren't playing desperation volleyball," said Bears setter Brock Daviduk. "You have to play with your head and your heart, but when it's close, you have to play with your gut."

Notably absent was Bears star outside

hitter Nicholas Cundy, who has been battling a nagging abdominal injury for much of the second half of the season. But thanks to some very strong performance off the bench, the Bears were able to keep their drive towards the national title very much alive.

"We had to make a switch with Nicholas out," said Bears Coach Terry Danyluk. "At 50 per cent, he's still been doing okay, but we decided that we needed to have guys on the court

that were going 100, feeling that it would make the difference."

"Tony (Skulted) came out and had a really great game, and so did Jakob (Runch), said Schulha. "We have a really deep bench, and it's been an all-around effort and that's what we need."

The Bears will hit the court again next weekend in Manitoba for the Can West Conference Final Four, which will determine the seeding for CIS Nationals the following weekend.



SOARING HIGH Setter Brock Daviduk (10) sets up middle Adam Kaminski (3).

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## Five Alberta wrestlers qualify for Nationals at Canada West tournament over weekend

JOEL CHURY  
Sports Editor

It was a successful weekend at the Butterdome for the University of Alberta's wrestling teams, as they qualified two women and three men for the national tournament in St. Catherine's, Ontario.

On Sunday, it was the women who completed their tournament leg first, with veteran Heidi Kulak solidifying her position in her 61kg weight class, finishing in second place to Emily Richardson of Simon Fraser University. Joining Kulak will be fellow Panda Jaclyn Hedges, who is wrestling for her first year, despite burning out two years of eligibility playing college basketball in Grande Prairie. "I was so impressed with Jaclyn's performance here, and I'm sure that with some good preparation over the next two weeks she'll be able to really compete at Nationals," said Kulak of her teammate's performance. "It's great to see your teammates perform so well, and it just inspires me to work harder."

It wasn't until after Heidi had wrestled her last match of the weekend that younger brother Anthony Kulak opened the men's competition in the final set of matches in the lightest weight class, 54kg. Uncertain whether he'd qualified yet or not, he was able to dominate his last match, winning on technical superiority 14-3. "I lost two matches earlier in the tournament to people that I felt I could've beaten. So I had to just let that go and put everything on the last match," said Anthony Kulak. "Win or lose, I just wanted to leave everything on the mat, and that's



**CHIROPRACTOR FROM HELL** The Canada West finals took place last weekend.

what I did."

Joining Anthony Kulak on the men's side will be veteran wrestler Joe Slobodian in the 61kg class, and Jarret Wall in the 72kg class. Slobodian qualified in his first match on Sunday morning, but had a rough go in the afternoon, getting dropped onto his neck by second-place finisher Alexis Roumanus from SFU and having his gauge ripped off of his ear in his match against first-place finisher Colin Wist from the University of Saskatchewan. "I feel confident that in two weeks time, I'll be able to turn it around against both

of those guys," said Slobodian. "Colin Wist was the runner-up at Nationals in the weight class below me last year, and I've now had seven attempts to wrestle against him, and today was by far the best I've done against him (5-10), so it's just a matter of time before I'll pull it off, and hopefully I'll beat him next time."

As a team, the Bears finished fifth out of six teams this weekend with 26 points, while the Pandas also finished fifth with twelve points. The CIS finals take place in two weeks, giving the wrestlers some time to repair themselves after this week's competition.

COME WATCH US  
**play**

   
[www.bears.ualberta.ca](http://www.bears.ualberta.ca)



## Shine a light on our BEST

### Nominate a worthy volunteer for the Board of Governors' Award of Distinction

**WHO:** Award of Distinction nominees exemplify the spirit of innovation, generosity and commitment upon which the University of Alberta was founded. We seek individuals or groups who have made exceptional contributions to link the University of Alberta with the local, provincial, national and/or international community. Awards of Distinction are given to alumni and non-alumni in three categories: Academic, Non-Academic and Community.

**WHAT:** Nominees are recognized for volunteer activities which promote goodwill between the University and the broader community and enhance the University's reputation for excellence. Established in 1997 by the Board of Governors to acknowledge the many extraordinary people who touch the University, Award of Distinction recipients are now enshrined on the University's Roll of Honour at the Timms Centre for the Arts.

**WHY:** By nominating someone, you demonstrate your appreciation for their efforts, highlight the innovative individuals in your department or community and provide inspirational role models for the University's next generation of leaders.

**HOW:** The complete nomination form with criteria and eligibility information is available online at [www.ualberta.ca/governors/distinction.htm](http://www.ualberta.ca/governors/distinction.htm) or from the office of the Board of Governors at 492-4951.

UNIVERSITY OF  
**ALBERTA**

**Nomination Deadline is May 3, 2004**

# Hockey Pandas steamroll Pronghorns, move on to second round

BY JAMIE COFFIN

The Pandas hockey juggernaut continued its unobstructed march toward the national championships this weekend with a two-game sweep of the Lethbridge Pronghorns in their best-of-three Canada West semi-final playoff series.

Including regular season and playoffs, the Pandas are now 22-0-0 in conference play this season. Saturday afternoon, they proved that they don't even need to play well to continue their dominance, winning a sloppy 8-1 affair to open the series. Both teams played significantly better in Sunday's much tighter second game, with the Pandas prevailing by a 4-0 score. Pandas head coach Howie Draper says that Lethbridge came out Sunday, a completely different team than the one that got throttled the day before.

"They had an outstanding first period," he said. "They were so aggressive that it was very difficult for us to maintain our composure, and we were throwing the puck away and trying to rush things."

Unlike Saturday, when they seemed to lose composure and gave up many scoring chances, the Pronghorns were able to stick to their defensive system for most of game two. They managed to hold the Pandas scoreless in the second period, breaking Alberta's streak of 17 periods with at least one goal.

Yet despite the unusually low proportion of play in the offensive zone, the Pandas only surrendered seven shots in the game. Their play in the defensive zone was surprisingly

strong, given that they're used to spending much less time there.

"We gave the puck up a lot, but we did a pretty good job of ensuring that we were maintaining our defensive position," Draper said. "We were getting sticks on shots and paying the price in front of the net, really tying girls up so that when they got a shot they didn't get any rebounds."

He suggested that the chance to spend a substantial amount of time in their own end will prove helpful as the Pandas prepare to defend their national championship.

"We need as much of that as we can get," he said. "We need to be challenged like that if we want to continue to do well. We know that we're going to be pressured a lot when we go to nationals, so we've got to play games like that if we expect to be prepared to win a national championship."



ROBIN COLLINS

**SWEETPASTIC** Pandas forward Jamie Coffin and her team swept Lethbridge.

Pandas forward Danielle Bourgeois, who was named the first star in both games with a pair of goals in each, agrees that the defensive challenge Lethbridge provided will help the Pandas as they continue their playoff run.

"Because we're offence oriented, if we keep scoring goals we don't have to worry too much about our end," she said. "But we do continue to work on our D-zone, because eventually we're going to meet a good offensive team."

The Pandas return to action next weekend as they host the Canada West final against the Saskatchewan Huskies, who scored a huge upset over the Regina Cougars in the other semi-final series this weekend. The final begins Friday night at 7pm at Clare Drake Arena. Game two goes Saturday night at the same time, with game three, if necessary, being played Sunday at 2pm.

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Vivek Sharma

**Vice President External**  
Alex Abboud  
Heather Wallace

**Vice President Ops & Finance**  
Josh bazin  
Alvin Law

**Vice President Student Life**  
Duncan taylor  
Tyler Daignault  
Carmen Gustafson  
Mike Schwake

**Board of Governors**  
Roman Kotovych  
Michael Hunka

WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/ELECTION04



# Students' Union Employment Opportunities



**TERMS OF OFFICE:** 1 May 2004 to 30 April 2005 (in most cases)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Tuesday, 9 March 2004, 5:00 p.m. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Submit COMPLETE PACKAGE to 2-900 SUB

**APPLICATION FORMS:** Available at SU Reception Desk 2-900 SUB, and SUB, HUB, CAB Info Booths and Faculty Association Offices or online at [www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca). Job descriptions are available at 2-900 SUB or [www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca)

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applied, however ONLY shortlisted and successful applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
- Positions subject to Council ratification and signing of employment contract.

### Academic Affairs Coordinator

Reports to the VP Academic. Assists and reports on various academic issues — coordinating projects related to academic affairs. Represent the VP Academic and serve as the resource person for the AAB, GFCSC and student reps on University committees. This position requires a minimum of 20 hours per week in office time.

**Remuneration:** \$1098/month May-Aug  
\$961/month Sept-April

For further information contact the VP Academic.

**Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, starting at 8:00 p.m.**

### Athletic Campus Events Coordinator

Reports to the VP Student Life. Works on programming component relating to U of A Athletic Events. Term of this position may be August 15/04-Nov. 30/04 and Jan2/05-March 31/05. Requires a minimum of 20 hours per week in office time. Position is currently under review

**Remuneration:** \$900/month

For further information contact the VP Student Life

**Interviews Wednesday March 31, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

### Community Relations Coordinator

Reports to the VP External. Assists with organization of on and off-campus events designed to introduce members of the community and prospective students to the Students' Union and the U of A. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

**Remuneration:** \$1098/month May - August  
\$961/month Sept. - April

For further information contact the VP External.

**Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

### Student Activities Coordinator

Reports to the VP Student Life. Assists with the programming and the volunteer management components of the VP Student Life's portfolio. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time. required

**Remuneration:** \$1098/month May - August  
\$961/month Sept. - April

For further information contact the VP Student Life.

**Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

### Recording Secretary

Required to attend and record accurate minutes of all Students' Union Council meetings. Position currently under review

**Remuneration:** \$83.00/meeting

### Speaker of Students' Council

Reports to Students' Council. Chairs all meetings of Students' Council in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order and the Standing Orders of Students' Council. Position currently under review

**Remuneration:** \$135.00/meeting

**Interviews scheduled for Monday March 29, starting at 9:00 p.m.**

### Chief Returning Officer

Reports to the President of the Students' Union and oversees all electoral logistics. Must be familiar with election process and bylaws. Excellent project management skills are required to succeed in this position.

**Remuneration:** \$3744.00 flat rate.

For further information contact the President.

**Interviews are scheduled for Monday March 29 at 7:30 pm.**

### ECOS (Environmental Coordination Office of Students) Director\*

Reports to Manager of Student Services. Responsible for researching environmental issues within the SU and general University.

**Remuneration:** \$1300/month.

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews are scheduled for Monday, March 29, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

### Information Services Director\*

Reports to Manager of Student Services. Information Services offers a wide variety of services to students via three information booths and a main office.

**Remuneration:** \$1372/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday March 24, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

### OmbudService Director\*

Reports to Manager of Student Services. Must possess strong listening skills and be an effective mediator. Must be familiar with University and Students' Union grievance and appeal procedures, and will represent and advise students on such matters.

**Remuneration:** \$1318/month

**Term:** This position requires a two-year commitment.

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews are scheduled for Friday March 26, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

### Safewalk Director\*

Reports to Manager of Student Services. Work with other units on campus to improve and promote safety. Excellent opportunity to develop volunteer management and administrative skills.

**Remuneration:** \$1346/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews are scheduled for Thursday March 25, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

### Student Distress Centre Director\*

Reports to the Manager of Student Services. In conjunction with the Distress Line, offers peer counselling, crisis intervention and information/referral services to the campus community. Must have at least one year of comparable peer-counselling experience.

**Remuneration:** \$1346/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday, March 24 starting at 7:00 p.m.**

### Student Groups Director\*

Reports to the Manager of Student Services. Organize and provide support to a diverse array of student groups as the Director of Student Groups. Provide administration and support to these groups.

**Remuneration:** \$1300/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

**Interviews are scheduled for Thursday March 25, starting at 7:00 p.m.**

### Campus Food Bank Manager\*

Reports to the Campus Food Bank Board of Directors. Responsible for all aspects of the Campus Food Bank, including volunteer recruitment, training etc.

**Remuneration:** \$1100/month Salary currently under review

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236 interview time TBA.

\* All Director positions are 25-30 hours per week.

# Volunteer Opportunities Boards & committees



TERMS OF OFFICE: 1 May 2004 to 30 April 2005

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Tuesday, 9 March 2004, 5:00 p.m. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Submit COMPLETE PACKAGE to 2-900 SUB

APPLICATION FORMS: Available at SU Reception Desk 2-900 SUB, and SUB, HUB, CAB Info Booths, and Faculty Association Offices or online at [www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca). Detailed information available at 2-900 SUB and @[www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca)

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applied, however ONLY shortlisted and successful applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.

## STUDENTS' UNION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS BOARD

- requires 6 student-at-large members
- makes recommendations to Students' Council on academic issues
- assists and advises the Vice-President Academic
- deals with activities relating to student awareness of academic issues
- administers Students' Union Awards

For further information contact the VP Academic Janet Lo at 492-4236  
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 8, starting at 5:00 p.m.

### ACCESS FUND COMMITTEE

- requires 3 student-at-large members
  - deals with eligibility guidelines, setting the number and value, and actual handing out of Students' Union Access Fund bursaries
  - will also work on the marketing aspect of the Access Fund
- For further information contact the VP Operations & Finance Tyler Botten at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 8, starting at 8:00 p.m.

### AWARDS COMMITTEE

- requires 4 student-at-large members
  - selects the recipients of the Students' Union Involvement Awards
- For further information contact the VP Academic Janet Lo at 492-4236  
Interviews scheduled for Friday April 9, starting at 5:00 p.m.

### EUGENE L. BRODY FUNDING COMMITTEE

- requires 5 student-at-large members
- determines Students' Union financial donations to various charitable or relief projects.

For further information contact the VP External Chris Samual at 492-4236  
Interviews scheduled for Friday April 9, starting at 5:00 p.m.

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

- requires 6 student-at-large members
- creates and coordinates projects on campus concerning various issues of interest and concern
- makes recommendations to Students' Council on political issues

For further information contact the VP External Chris Samual at 492-4236  
Interviews scheduled for Thursday April 8, starting at 5:00 p.m.

### FINANCIAL AFFAIRS BOARD

- requires 4 student-at-large members
  - sets guidelines for the SU preliminary budget
  - prepares the SU final budget for Students' Council
  - considers financial matters which relate to the SU
- For further information contact the VP Operations & Finance Tyler Botten at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Thursday April 8, starting at 5:00 p.m.

### GOLDEN BEAR AND PANDA LEGACY FUND COMMITTEE

- requires 2 student-at-large members
- determines the allocation of the funds to varsity teams and student groups on the basis of need

For further information contact the VP Operations & Finance Tyler Botten at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Friday April 9, starting at 5:00 p.m.

### CAMPUS RECREATION ENHANCEMENT FUND

- requires 2 student-at-large members
  - determines the allocation of funds to Campus Recreation related programs, equipment, and facilities on the basis of need
- For further information contact the VP Operations & Finance Tyler Botten at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Friday April 9, starting at 8:00 p.m.

## INTERNAL REVIEW BOARD

- requires 2 student-at-large members
  - continually reviews existing bylaws and operating policies
  - directs and recommends action in form of bylaws or policies
- For further information contact the President Mat Brechtel

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday April 7, starting at 5:00 p.m.

## PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- requires 5 student-at-large members
  - makes recommendations regarding SU entertainment events and programs
  - provides reports to Students' Council regarding SU events & activities.
- For further information contact the VP Student Life Jadene Mah at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Thursday April 8, starting at 5:00 p.m.

## STUDENT GROUPS COMMITTEE

- requires 5 student-at-large members
- considers grants for financial assistance from SU student groups
- advises the Director of Student Groups on all matters concerning clubs registered to the Students' Union

For more information, contact the Student Groups Director at 492-9789

Interviews scheduled for Friday April 9, starting at 5:00 p.m.

## STUDENT LIFE BOARD

- requires 6 student-at-large members
- monitors and provides direction to RHA, Programming and WOW Planning Committee

For more information, contact the VP Student Life Jadene Mah at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday April 7, starting at 5:00 p.m.

## STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENTS

### COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

#### & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- requires 1 undergraduate student
  - to recommend policy and serve as the focal point for consideration of policy issues to the University community
- Meets: At the call of the Chair

### ONEcard ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- requires 1 undergraduate student to provide valuable feedback and guidance on all aspects of the current and future ONEcard operations.

Meets: At the call of the Chair

For further information on Standing Committees contact the VP Academic Janet Lo at 492-4236.

Interviews to be scheduled for Friday April 9, starting at 8:00 p.m.

## UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SENATE

- requires 4 undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- the Senate's responsibility is to inquire into any matter that may enhance the image of the University and act as a link between the University and the public. The Senate may also authorize the conferring of Honorary Degrees.

Meets: Four times yearly

For further information contact the VP External Chris Samual at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Friday April 9, starting at 8:00 p.m.

# Tractor still running strong despite hiatus

**Captain Tractor**  
with *Today and After*  
Saturday, 28 February  
Powerplant

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Celtic rockers Captain Tractor have been pretty quiet recently: it's been over three years since the release of their last album, *Hoserista*, and they've only played two shows since September. But while at times it's felt like the Tractor was broken down for good, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Brock Skywalker assures fans that the band is still very much together and plans to stay that way.

After seven years of nearly constant touring, Skywalker says the gruelling schedule just became too much to bear. "We needed to take some time off to regroup," he explains. "We kind of burnt ourselves out and just ended up not getting along particularly well, and not for any other reason than we were just in each others' face. You have six guys in a van all the time going everywhere together, and it's bound to happen—I can't believe we lasted as long as we did keeping up that kind of schedule."

The band has stuck to a much lighter schedule over the last three years, an arrangement that Skywalker says is just what they're looking for. They'd much rather fly to Toronto and do a quick eastern tour than spend two months playing their way across the country, he says, so don't expect Captain Tractor to return to their more hectic touring of past years anytime soon. "We just found that we enjoyed doing it more when it was just for fun more than pounding it out and showing up at a bar in Moncton to play to 15 people who don't really give a rat's ass. We

just decided that we needed to pick our venues and our shows a little more carefully," Skywalker remarks.

But while the shows have been less frequent, there have been some noteworthy ones. In November, for instance, the band played the pre-game show at the Grey Cup in Regina in front of 51,000 fans. Despite the bitter cold temperatures at the game, the band decided to play their set live rather than using a recording, which Skywalker admits may have been a mistake.

**"We kind of burnt ourselves out and just ended up not getting along particularly well, and not for any other reason than we were just in each others' face. You have six guys in a van all the time going everywhere together, and it's bound to happen—I can't believe we lasted as long as we did keeping up that kind of schedule."**

BROCK SKYWALKER

"It was the coldest our instruments or our hands have ever been. We were the only ones who actually played, and it was nearly impossible. I don't fault [the other bands] at all for not trying; if you want to sound good, you don't play, because it's just too cold," he notes. "Our guitarist, Chris Wynters, grabbed one of his gloves and was just hitting the strings of his guitar with it, because he dropped every pick he



**CAPTAIN ROCK** The guitar was all like "doo doo doo doo doo" in a Celtic kinda way. Ya know?

had in his pocket and he couldn't feel his fingers well enough to hold onto them."

Between shows, some of the guys have been working on solo albums, with Skywalker and Wynters both nearing completion of their projects. But Skywalker says that a new Tractor album is in the works as well, though it's still in the very preliminary stages. "These [solo projects] are things that are fun to do, but they're certainly not meant to be a replacement

for the band. There's constantly talk of [releasing a new Tractor album] so if there isn't one I'd be really surprised. I can't say for sure, or when, but I can't imagine it not happening at some point."

While their upcoming show is a rare opportunity for fans to see them live, it certainly won't be the last. The old Tractor hasn't been running much lately, but it's still in fine shape and ready to keep plowing fans for years to come.

# Welcome to Mooseport cinematic road kill

Ray Romano's performance staggeringly frustrating to watch in movie that lacks both substance and depth

## Welcome to Mooseport

Directed by Donald Petrie  
Starring Ray Romano, Gene Hackman, Rip Torn, and Mauro Tierney  
20th Century Fox  
www.welcometomooseport.com  
Now playing

ADAM ROZENIART  
Managing Editor

Welcome to Mooseport has all the bravado of a political campaign: it is, at times, fast-paced and gritty, and the tactics of the candidates are about as ethical as bathing baby seals in oil. And also just like a political campaign, Mooseport has absolutely no substance or depth to it whatsoever.

Mooseport, home of resident handyman Handy Harrison (Ray Romano), is facing a potential crisis; a civic election is impending, and the town's multi-term mayor incumbent has passed away. With no one to fill the mayor's seat, some of the town's officials confront new resident and former United States President Monroe "Eagle" Cole (Gene Hackman) and convince him that he should be mayor of his new hometown.

After some consultation with his PR people, Cole decides to run only to discover that he's got competition: the idiotic Handy Harrison. Place Harrison's dissatisfied girlfriend Grace (Mauro Tierney) in the middle, and you've got the film that feels like it was born out of a group of idiots

sitting around a table in Hollywood who figured a completely ridiculous plot would make for some good comedy. Unsurprisingly, they couldn't have been more wrong.

**When one designs a movie around the humour of someone as insipid as Ray Romano, they're asking for nothing but an audience drowning in their own tears as they try to sit through this lagging narrative.**

Ray Romano reprises his role from his bizarrely successful sitcom *Everybody Loves Raymond*, and unfortunately, Romano's character—apparently loosely based on himself—is as boring as the town of Mooseport itself. His performance in no way makes you want to cheer on the little guy, and his sheer stupidity is staggering and frustrating to watch.

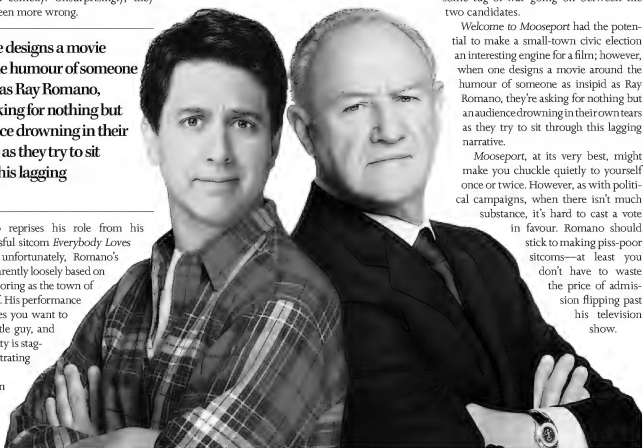
The main characters, however, aren't the only ones who are

poorly developed—the supporting cast is also a knee-deep well of mediocre characterization. For example, it's painfully obvious that one of Handy's employees, Mandy (Reagan Pasternak), is in love with him. But aside from a minor mention at a debate of her love for her boss,

Mandy is pushed aside to make way for the lame antics of Harrison and the cunning Cole. Other actors with superior comedic prowess are cast by the wayside as well: Rip Torn is good for a laugh or two in most of the roles he plays, but in Mooseport he's just a catalyst for the tiresome tug-of-war going on between the two candidates.

Welcome to Mooseport had the potential to make a small-town civic election an interesting engine for a film; however, when one designs a movie around the humour of someone as insipid as Ray Romano, they're asking for nothing but an audience drowning in their own tears as they try to sit through this lagging narrative.

Mooseport, at its very best, might make you chuckle quietly to yourself once or twice. However, as with political campaigns, when there isn't much substance, it's hard to cast a vote in favour. Romano should stick to making piss-poor sitcoms—at least you don't have to waste the price of admission flipping past his television show.





# I see Britain, I see France, I see Steve Martin in Underpants

## The Underpants

Adapted by Steve Martin  
Directed by Chris McGreggor  
Starring Troy O'Donnel, Tracey Power,  
Colleen Wheeler, Garrett Ross,  
Benjamin Cohen and Robin Richardson  
Now Showing

DAVE BERRY  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

You can tell by the large bold print on the posters, the massive billing on the program, and the fact that what was an early-20th century German farce has been transformed into a slap-you-in-the-face obvious muddled mess that Steve Martin was the one who adapted this play. His wild and crazy ramblings are all over it.

The actual play *The Underpants*, originally written by German playwright Carl Sternheim, revolves around a young housewife named Louise Maske (Tracey Power) who has the misfortune of having her underpants fall down in the middle of a parade for the King. The town is soon aghast, and we join Louise just after the event happened in her home with her straight-laced husband (Troy O'Donnel) and nosy neighbour Gertrude (Colleen Wheeler). The problems start when two underwear suitors—a poet named Versati (Garrett Ross) and a barber named Cohen (Scott Walters)—who have fallen in love with Louise after seeing the aforementioned event, rent rooms in her house in the hopes of having an affair with her.

What should ensue is a farce revolving around society's bizarre fascination with sex, and even a little skewering of the pretensions of the middle class, instead, we get what is essentially a teenage sex comedy, except with the added handicap of being set in Germany in 1910. Disappointingly, Martin has removed any elements of satire and given us pseudo-slapstick and "outrageous" humour.

The technical aspects of the play are fine, in particular the set which, while it first looks ungainly and out-of-place, is used terrifically throughout. The falling is really in the script. The problem isn't that the multitudes of jokes aren't funny—some of them are, or at least should be. The problem is that the jokes are so incredibly obvious; you can see most of them coming the instant the character walks on to the stage. And to make matters worse, Martin isn't content to tell a joke once and get on with it—he'd much rather



WHAT HAVE WE HERE? A really terrible adaptation of a German play, perhaps?

play the same joke over and over, to the point where it feels as if he's standing behind you with a large, hard-cover edition of the play, beating you on the head and telling you to laugh at what an uptight nincompoop Louise's husband is.

**There is absolutely no escaping the Martin influence and this "adaptation," to the point where some lines are practically begging to be delivered with a fake arrow through the performer's head as he or she talks in a Czechoslovakian accent while standing next to Dan Akroyd.**

There is absolutely no escaping the Martin influence on this "adaptation," to the point where some lines are practically begging to be delivered

with a fake arrow through the performer's head as he or she talks in a Czechoslovakian accent while standing next to Dan Akroyd. He has subverted all elements of farce and turned it into what is essentially mildly funny ego masturbation, loosely based on a German play.

Martin's slaughter aside, the script could have been saved if the actors didn't turn in equally obvious, downright hammy performances. Even the funniest—in the loosest sense of that term—performance, the bombastic neighbour Gertrude, wears thin rather quickly, and the only other character that has any real potential for good laughs, the poet Versati, has just that, potential laughs, with no good lines sent his way.

All this mediocrity combined leads to a rather tedious theatre experience, although in its favour, *The Underpants* does fly by at about two hours running time. If you are a big fan of Steve Martin's work, you'll probably find this play an absolute laugh riot: most of the audience certainly did. But then again, in all fairness, you probably deserve to have someone stand behind you with a large book and bash you in the head.



**Tenacious D**  
The Complete Masterworks  
Epik Records  
www.tenaciousd.com

DAVE BERRY  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In the words of the guy who introduces *Tenacious D* at the beginning of their HBO episodes—which are

incidentally found on this DVD—the Surgeon General of Rock warns that watching *Tenacious D: The Complete Masterworks* is equivalent to enduring 29 orgasms.

While watching this compilation of *Tenacious D*'s work you'll be feeling every last one of those pleasure-inducing sports of heaven. This DVD is a comprehensive collection of everything *Tenacious D*, including footage from their concert at the Britton Academy in London, all the aforementioned HBO episodes—which are, incidentally, produced by *Mr Show*'s dynamic duo, David Cross and Bob Odenkirk—short films, music videos, making of music video videos, and two documentaries: one in studio and one on the road.

Although the concert footage is nice—especially for those of us who will never have a chance to see them live, ever—it's the added features

that really make this DVD stand out. Jack Black and Kyle Gass are two very funny individuals, but in concert they're more of a modern Spinal Tap than anything else. Once you delve into their TV shows and music videos, however, their particular brand of comedic genius really shines through and makes this a DVD worth watching a few times over.

In addition, the documentaries included on the disc are also done fairly well. It would be easy to just tack on anything to appease the fans, but these shorts manage to maintain both *Tenacious D*'s unique sense of humour and give something more than the standard "This is the band. This is the band not on stage." kind of thing standard to these.

If you're a *Tenacious D* fan, this should be as vital as kidneys. If you're not, what more incentive could you need than 29 orgasms?

## FREE STUFF



Epitaph Records has been kind enough to supply us with a bunch of their newly released compilations. *Punk-O-Rama 8*, *Epitaph DVD Video Mix*, as well as a few albums by Horror Pops and 1208. If you love great punk music like a fat kid loves cheeseburgers, send an e-mail to [entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca) with the subject line "Epitaph is my daddy" and tell us why you deserve a set of their discs in 100 words or less. Only winners will be notified.

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### GFC COMMITTEES: STUDENTS NEEDED \*\*\*\*

The terms of office for students serving on General Faculties Council (GFC) Standing Committees and Appeal Boards and committees to which GFC elects members will expire on April 30, 2004. Undergraduate and graduate students (except as noted) are encouraged to apply now to serve on any of the following committees for terms of office beginning May 1, 2004, and ending April 30, 2005. (Some students currently serving on these committees may be seeking re-election to some additional terms.)

**ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC)** – STUDENT VACANCIES: ONE undergraduate and ONE graduate. Meeting Times: 2:00 pm/2nd & 4th Wednesdays. GFC's senior committee dealing with academic, financial and planning issues.

**ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ASC)** – STUDENT VACANCY: ONE undergraduate. Undergraduate students who have transferred from an Alberta college are encouraged to apply. Meeting Times: 9:00 am/3rd Thursday. GFC committee dealing with admissions, transfer, academic standing, examination policies.

**CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (CLR)** – STUDENT VACANCIES: ONE undergraduate and ONE graduate. Meeting Time: 9:30 am/last Thursday each month. Reviews Code of Student Behaviour, Code of Applicant Behaviour and Residence Community Standards.

**COMMITTEE ON THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (CLE)** – STUDENT VACANCIES: ONE undergraduate and ONE graduate. Meeting Times: 9:00 am/1st Wednesday. Promotes excellence in teaching and optimal learning environment and provides for appropriate information resources to the University community.

**FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (FD)** – STUDENT VACANCY: ONE undergraduate. Meeting Times: 9:00 am/3rd Friday. Recommends on planning and use of facilities, proposed buildings, use of land, parking and transportation.

**UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (UASC)** – STUDENT VACANCIES: TWO undergraduates. Meeting Times: three times a year (October/November, February/March and April/May). Approves new awards for undergraduate students including selection and eligibility.

**UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARDS COMMITTEE (UTAC)** – STUDENT VACANCIES: TWO undergraduates and ONE graduate. Meeting Times: Normally meets three times a year (October, March and April). Adjudicates the Northford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Sessional Teaching, and the Teaching Unit Award.

**ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE (AAC) / UNIVERSITY APPEAL BOARD (UAB)** – AAC STUDENT VACANCIES: THREE undergraduates; UAB STUDENT VACANCIES: SIX undergraduates and TWO graduates. AAC hears and decides appeals regarding academic standing. UAB hears and decides appeals regarding disciplinary decisions of the Discipline Officer and Dean as made under the Code of Student Behaviour. Hearing Times: Hearings are normally scheduled from 4:30 pm onward and last from time to time. Students applying to serve on the AAC and UAB must have flexible late afternoon/evening schedules. **YOU MUST BE AVAILABLE AT LEAST TWO NIGHTS MONDAY-THURSDAY.** Please provide the names and contact information for at least three references, as oral reference checks will be conducted for students applying to AAC and UAB.

**COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS (COSA)** – VACANCIES: ONE undergraduate and ONE graduate. The aim of the Council is the betterment of the quality of student life at the University of Alberta.

**NOTE:** There is one STUDENT VACANCY on the GFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE for an undergraduate student who is a GFC member. Expressions of interest should be directed to Ms Ellen Schock, Secretary to the GFC Replenishment Committee.

Application forms and committee information are available in PDF format on the University Secretariat website:

**HYPERLINK** <http://www.aualberta.ca/secretariat/>, or in Room 2-5 University Hall. Applications should be completed and returned to the University Secretariat by **Thursday, March 4, 2004**. Students are invited to contact Ms Marlene Lewis (by telephone: 402-1938, or by e-mail: marlene.lewis@ualberta.ca) for information regarding committee membership and terms of reference.

# Average Joe 2 gives us all hope



JOSH  
KJENNER

A&E  
Commentary

Everything I know in my life about love, I've learned from reality shows. Not only does this explain the fact that I get laid never; it also sheds some light on my motivation for trying to break up with my last girlfriend via elimination ceremony. Although there are several shows that could partially claim responsibility for my Don-Juan-esque grasp of romance, there is one show in particular that has taught me some very valuable lessons about not only love, but life—*Average Joe 2: Hawaii*.

For those unfamiliar with the show, here's the basic idea. You have one dream woman, in this case a former Miss Missouri by the name of Larissa who's not only gorgeous, but also into culture and shit. You plop her onto an island with 20 geeks, who would probably feel much more comfortable stalking her, and for the first two episodes hilarity ensues. Then a boat full of buff supermodels shows up and crashes the party, and the rest of the show is spent watching Larissa attempt to balance her pity for the nerds with the unforgiving call of her loins.

As you can probably tell, this is a recipe for shiny, beautiful gold. First of all, when I say Larissa is gorgeous, I mean gorgeous. Like, sell-your-kidney-for-ass-implants gorgeous. Or, if there are no surgeons in sight, cut-out-your-kidneys-and-ran-them-in-your-ass-to-make-it-look-fucker gorgeous. If all the show consisted of was 44 minutes of Ken Burns pans of Larissa's gums punctuated by occasional shots of her chin, you'd still see me—and my equally desperate/horny roommates—tuning in faithfully at 11pm every Monday.

But as hot as Larissa is, if all I wanted to do was watch girls, I'd set up shop at the local high school. What really makes this show is geeks—and geeks these guys are. They represent a good cross section of the geeky portion of society—ranging in height, stature, career path, degree of religious zealotry, and likelihood of virginity—but they all have one thing in common: a complete and total romantic



STUDS Can these men really crush nerds with their peccs?

ineptitude that would be present even with mustachioed Nova Scotian lobster fisherman, late already decided un-mustachioed un-Nova-Scotian Aphrodites like Larissa. And as anyone who's ever seen *The New Guy* knows, inept guy plus hot girl equals ROT-muthafuckin'-FL hilarity.

This show isn't only for the fellas though—there's even some eye candy for the ladies. The eperduits exhibit a degree of jadedness previously found only in cars with flat tires. As well, with a few exceptions, their egos are almost as big as their abs. This results in some fun times as Larissa attempts to ascertain if personality really is more important than looks by making out with every goddamn person in a five-mile radius.

The best part about this show, however, is that against all odds the geeks seem to be holding their own. And although, really, this show has absolutely no relevant extrapolation to my life whatsoever, since I'm desperately trying to tie up this article nicely I'm going to say this: *Average Joe 2: Hawaii* has taught me to believe in not only myself, but destiny. So, watch out, women of campus: I'm looking for my Larissa, and I'm not afraid to sniff some hair in the process.



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IAN IUCH  
Arts & Entertainment Writer



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DAVE BERRY  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Ice Cube, why hast thou forsaken us? Believe it or not, before he started appearing in movies like *Torque* and making some of the worst, uninspired, blatant rap on the market, Cube was a virtuosic and clever MC, equally adept at criticizing US society as he was at making you marvel at his lyrical prowess.

He lurked in the shadows of Public Enemy's two best albums, *It Takes a Nation of Millions...* and *Fear of a Black Planet*, was the lyrical force

behind N.W.A. and produced a few albums, like *AmeriKKKa's Most Wanted* and *Death Certificate*, that were loaded with relevant and biting rhymes and skilled production.

Air's beautiful blend of acoustic and electronic elements—carefully structured guitar and simple, atmospheric synths—makes this a light, breezy album, whose charms will do nothing but grow with each subsequent listen.

While Air is known to wander into the experimental, Talkie Walkie takes them back to their roots, where melody and playfulness come first. There are still plenty of little blips and clicks, spiralling loops of sound, and layers of depth to every track, but Air never loses focus on their strength: making beautifully crafted music that both stretches musical boundaries, and leaves you humming along.

behind N.W.A. and produced a few albums, like *AmeriKKKa's Most Wanted* and *Death Certificate*, that were loaded with relevant and biting rhymes and skilled production.

Alas, he has since been reduced to spewing out this pathetic shit with untalented hacks WC and Mack 10, wrapping (Note to reader: I mean "wrapping" in the sense of "covering something with, surrounding something with" in the sense of one "wrapping" a present, and not "rapping" as in "rhyming words and swearing a lot" ... in other words, it's not a typo) his tired rhymes with pseudo-irony.

But mostly he's just boasting, not to mention rapping over beats and production that sounds straight off of a bad "gangsta" rap album of the mid '90s. Even Westside's first album, *Blackout*, which was nothing more than gangsta clichés, had a few redeeming moments: the odd valid point, or at the very least a line clever enough to make you take notice. This lame effort, however, is devoid of anything worthwhile.

Please, if you do nothing else to improve society this year, do not buy this album. In fact, destroy this album if you see it sitting on store shelves, and help preserve the memory of Ice Cube as a real rapper, and not the hip-hop equivalent of *The Godfather* III.

# Barely-legal breasts not the only good part of *Eurotrip*

## Eurotrip

Starring Michelle Trachtenberg, Scott Mechlowicz, Jacob Pitts, Travis Wester  
Directed By Jeff Schaffer  
Dreamworks  
www.eurotrip-themovie.com  
Now playing

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For a movie that's being sold mostly on the appeal of Michelle Trachtenberg's perky, barely-legal breasts, it's a bit ironic that hers are nearly the only ones in *Eurotrip* that don't end up being exposed. Surprisingly, though, the film turns out to have another selling point: it's very funny. In fact, while the raunchy comedy has its definite low points, it's still comical enough overall to overcome any disappointment spawned by missing out on seeing Buffy's little sister topless.

**In the opening five minutes, Cooper manages to get a woman to remove her bikini top and rub her breasts, to "get some dirt off." It's crass and a least a little offensive, yet played with a surprisingly astute comic sense by Pitts.**

The story, like many of the jokes, revolves around a series of stupid blunders. Scotty (Scott Mechlowicz) is dumped by his cheating girlfriend (Sneak's) Kristen Kreuk, who also keeps her shirt on at graduation day and humiliated when her real beau—or one of them, at any rate—performs the hilarious theme song "Scotty Doesn't Know" at the grad party. When

his German pal Mieke (Jessica Bohrs) offers romantic solace, Scotty, thinking that Mieke is a guy, fires off an angry reply to the pass, and by the time he realizes his mistake, she's blocked his emails. So, Scotty and best friend Cooper (Jacob Pitts) decide to head to Berlin to apologize personally. They hop on a cheap flight to London, meet twins Jenny (Trachtenberg) and Jamie (Travis Wester) in Paris, and set off on the scenic route to Germany.

Naturally, it's "scenic" in more ways than one, as the nudity comes fast and furious throughout the film. In the opening five minutes, Cooper manages to get a woman to remove her bikini top and rub her breast, to "get some dirt off." It's crass and at least a little offensive, yet played with a surprisingly astute comic sense by Pitts. And there's plenty more T&A where that came from, plus more than a little P when a nude beach full of horny men chase Scotty and Cooper after seeing Jenny in her swimsuit.

The American foursome also encounters an astounding array of European stereotypes: a busload of British soccer hooligans assault a man who dares to wear a Team France shirt in Paris, a hotel worker in Bratislava quits his job to start his own hotel after getting a nickel as a tip, and a snooty French robot mime gets into a side-splittingly funny fight with Scotty. All of these scenarios are much more hilarious than they really should be, though at times the stereotyping does start to get uncomfortable; the movie far overestimates the comedic value of men being sexually assaulted by over-amorous Italians in dark train tunnels or anal raped by a harsh Dutch dominatrix and her arsenal of



FEED ME Oh Jesus, I'm so hungry!

terrifying gadgets.

Still, if such moments can be set aside—and granted, for many people they probably can't be—the good manages to outweigh the bad. Much of the credit for that goes to the cast, who for the most part avoid the over-stated mugging that often plagues similar films. Even Pitts, while disturbingly reminiscent of David Spade, plays Cooper with a certain softness that certainly won't be mistaken for subtlety, but nonetheless serves to differentiate him from the annoying style SNL alum that are usually featured in slapstick comedies. Plus, Trachtenberg, who was overlooked as Dawn on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, combines sexy and funny near-perfectly in her first "adult" role.

The final act isn't quite as funny as the rest of the movie; the jokes start to get more and more contrived, which is a little annoying, though admittedly it's difficult to imagine a non-contrived way for the world to be convinced that Scotty is the new Pope. But despite its silly plot and occasional dragging scenes, on the whole *Eurotrip* is just plain funny, and the end result is nearly as enjoyable as its well-groomed characters are naked.

We here at the Gateway aren't so superficial as the rest of the world; we don't believe in shaving our legs, wearing deodorant or even changing our underwear more than once or twice a month.

Yes, we are an accepting group of young scholars. If you're looking for a place to find solace for your out-of-the-ordinary ways look no further than our office on 3-04 SUB.

Arts & Entertainment meetings run every Thursday at 5pm, so put your pit stick down, pick up your pens and come join our au natural team.

## THE GATEWAY NOT SHAVING OUR LEGS SINCE 1910



## FREE STUFF

THE GATEWAY WANTS TO SEND YOU TO SEE...



In *Starsky & Hutch*, the origins of the charismatic crime-fighting duo David Starsky and Ken "Hutch" Hutchinson are explored when these undercover Bay City detectives are partnered for their very first assignment. Ben Stiller plays the tightly wound Detective David Starsky who is thrown together with Owen Wilson's easygoing Detective Ken Hutchinson on a high-stakes case. Platinum-selling rapper and actor Snoop Dogg plays their savvy street informant Huggy Bear. The film also stars Vince Vaughn as a smooth-talking entrepreneur with an eye towards the future, and Juliette Lewis as his mistress. Carmen Electra, Amy Smart and Brande Roderick play three cheerleaders who help the detectives crack the case.

The movie opens Friday, 5 March, but we want you to see it early! For your chance to score a double guess pass to a special screening on Thursday, 26 February drop by the Gateway office Tuesday any time after 1pm.



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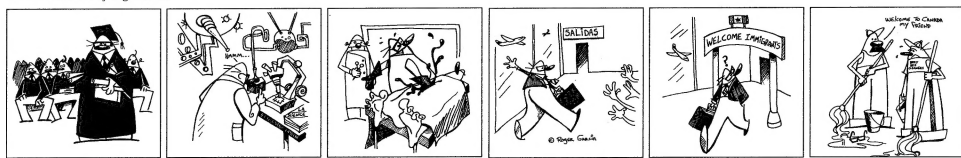
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## THREE LINES FOR A TOONIE

Have you ever noticed that when you ask someone what kind of music they like, they almost always say "everything"? Weird. Princess M, forgive me for taking along to help you out!! My bad, hope E Col understands... pl how's your "new friend"?

Ugh... why am I here and not in Mexico anymore... M

DAAAHH!!! Thanks Village Wife. Now I'm addicted to Alias. As if I needed another reason to stay home and watch TV. See you Thursday at 1 for the next episode! I sooooo want to find out what happened after she fell... Mayday.

Happy belated Valentine's Day LG. This is your only present. Ha Ha.

Hey Richie and DS, nice shirt! Want some mango butter?

## HAPPY BOB KNOWS

Campus events and more...

The U of A Law Rugby Club presents the latest Warren Miller ski movie by putting on a showing at the Horowitz Theatre, Thursday, 11 March at 8 pm. For the price of \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. There will be prizes available and sponsor booths set up in the lobby.

Comparative Literature Graduate Student Council presents Poet Laureate George Browning reading his poetry on 4 March from 7pm to 8:30pm in Humanities Ln. For more info call Kathrine Durbin at 492-7282.

Carlier and Placement Services presents several career forums over the next few weeks.

The History and Classics jobs forum will be presented on 8 March in Tory B-45 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. The price is \$6 at the

price of \$30. This history covers how to prepare for and take all types of tests.

•Languages & Linguistics jobs forum will be presented on 10 March in Tory B-45 from 4pm to 6 pm. The price is \$6 at the CaPS or office or \$10 at the door.

•Starting Your Own Business Career forum will be presented on 11 March in CAB 265 from 5pm to 7pm. The price is \$6 at the CaPS or office or \$10 at the door.

•Physical Education & Kinesiology career forum will be presented on 16 March in PEE-120 from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. The price is \$3 at the CaPS or office or \$10 at the door.

•Sociology career forum will be presented on 18 March in TB 95 from 4pm to 6pm. The price is \$3 at the CaPS or Sociology undergraduate office or \$10 at the door.

Call CaPS at 492-4291 for more info about any of these events.

## The Academic Support Centre presents

several seminars

•Strategies for Learning Anatomy and Physiology takes place on 28 February from 10am to 12pm in CAB 357 for the price of \$5.

•Exam Strategies takes place on 28 February from 12pm to 12pm in SUB 2-70 for the

price of \$30. This seminar covers how to prepare for and take all types of tests.

•Study Strategies takes place on 28 February from 1pm to 4pm in SUB 2-702 for the price of \$40. This seminar covers practical time management, note-taking, and memory strategies.

•Practical Note-taking Tips takes place on 1 March or 2 March from 12:30pm to 1pm in SUB 2-702 for the price of \$5.

•Working with Web-Based and Other Notes takes place on 2 March from 2:30pm to 3:30pm or 3 March from 11am to 12pm in SUB 2-702 for the price of \$20. This seminar covers practical time management, note-taking, and memory strategies.

All seminars must be pre-registered for at 2-703 SUB.

HBK is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. HBK is only printed in the Tuesday editions of the Gateway each week. HBK does not publish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. Submissions will print for one issue only. Entry deadline is 3pm Fridays (submit your entry on the Friday before the issue you wish it to appear in). Submit to the Gateway Offices (3-04, third floor SUBJ) or fax to 492-6665.



I'LL GET YOU, TURTLES! The Ninja Turtles turn 20; turn to page 10 for more info.

# 2004 Spring and Summer you can study:



## French in La Rochelle, France

June 1 to June 25

- French Cultural Moments FREN 233
- Intermediate University French FREN 297
- La Rochelle Project FREN 499

Registration Deadline: March 15, 2004



## Italian in Vico Equense, Italy

May 10 to June 18

- Second-Year Italian I and II ITAL 211/212
- Directed Readings: Italian Culture ITAL 499

Registration Deadline: March 29, 2004



## Ukrainian in L'viv, Ukraine

May 10 to June 11

- Ukrainian through its Living Culture UKR 300/499

Registration Deadline: March 8, 2004

For more information on these programs contact:

Undergraduate Secretary  
Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies  
Faculty of Arts  
200 Arts Building • Telephone: (780) 492-3272  
Website: www.humanities.ualberta.ca/MICS  
Sponsored by Special Registrations,  
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